

We are sure of a great deal of lip service, but not much else.

Almost 3000 metropolitan policemen were assaulted last year, 12 per cent more than in 1973.

The average fine of those convicted is far from adequate justification for the attendance at court of even one of the three uniformed officers who are sent to the court for each square mile of the Metropolitan Police district, which suffers 150 burglaries and 350 auto-crimes daily.

Without necessarily criticism or cynicism, someone must point out to the public and even perhaps to the courts that there is a real shortage of police officers in the fact and since no one else is aware of them it is our job to do so. Indeed it is a serious neglect of duty to the service, to neglect even to tell the courts if we do not.

Sir Robert said that once the new system of handling complaints against the police, which is being implemented, was established, "We must surely go on to demand similar machinery for the examination of complaints against the others involved in the judicial process: the legal profession, the judiciary and the administration of justice itself."

Leading article, page 13

Also among the winners was Dr John Avison, a general practitioner of Kingston upon Thames who is interested in studying the effect of industrial noise levels. "I hope to take a more informed interest with me, to see what the passengers are exposed to", he said. But he is not opposed to the Concord.

Another winner, Mr H. S. Bailey, a lay preacher from Shepshed, Leicestershire, refused his free seat. He told British Airways that the arrangements for the flight would clash with his church duties. A thirty-sixth applicant

Private Robert Bastin, aged 21, of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, stationed at Shobeburness, who admitted threatening behaviour and stealing a hammer, was fined £90. Mr Gaggiadhar, for the prosecution, said he was one of 150 soldiers who had been raided on Southend, damaging a public house and terrorizing local people in revenge for alleged attacks on soldiers.

Private Bastin said he was one of several soldiers who had been beaten up by civilians. He had carried the hammer to defend himself.

sitting up in 1974 3 per cent gained 128 recruits, which was described as satisfactory by the Ministry of Defence. The total of 922 new RAF entrants compared with 1,039 last year is a drop of 15 per cent. That was accounted for by the higher proportion of candidates required with O levels, not normally available until July or August. Service totals, with last-year's figures in brackets, stood on June 30 at: Royal Navy, 67,566 (68,281); Royal Marines, 7,777 (7,782); Army, 167,184 (170,376); RAF, 93,705 (97,696). All Services, 336,232 (345,390).

for her until she moved to a bungalow three years ago.

Neighbours yesterday said Mrs Parker wrote to Mr Lees in jail and visited him once or twice. "She used to say she felt sorry for him," they said, and often told us that no one could sit in judgment, because we could not tell what we would do if we found ourselves in the same awful situation."

Mrs Parker also left £1,000 to anyone willing to look after her two Pekinese dogs.

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Orchestra, was ca

The authority - Gatwick discount - British Caledonian's - Edinburgh service - possible means of attracting passengers. Several might be considered from large discount availability to - customers more generally.

Such discounts preclude a relative move towards full-time fares on those days. The need to - the services profit - "paramount imper-

A police car was
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In the robbery
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Cannuel Isles, SW England. (L) : Wind SW, light or moderate; sea light or moderate; temp 20° to 21° (68° to 70° F).
Wales: Sunny intervals, scattered showers or rain; wind S, light or moderate; temp 20° to 21° (68° to 70° F).
W. England, Borders, Edin. and Aberdeen, Dundee, and Fife: Rather cloudy, outbreaks of rain; fog patches near coasts; wind S, light or moderate; temp 20° to 21° (68° to 70° F) but cooler on coasts.
Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll and Perth: Rather cloudy, scattered showers; wind SE, light or moderate; temp 17° to 19° (63° to 64° F).
N. Ireland: Rather cloudy showers or rain, sunny intervals; wind S, light or moderate; temp 19° (66° F).
S. Ireland: (a) for tomorrow and Sunday: Rain at times in western districts but sunny intervals; temps near normal in N and W but mostly warm in S and E. (b) for Monday: Rain in the Straits of Dover; Wind SW, light or moderate; sea light.
English Channel (E) : Wind SW moderate; sea light.
S. Channel: (a) for tomorrow: Irish Sea: Wind SW, moderate; sea increasing; fresh later; sea slight, increasing.

moderate.					
AY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair;					
L. Palmas	G	F	Nico	C	R
Lisbon	27	72	Nicolsa	38	83
Las Vegas	29	81	Oale	38	77
London	27	82	Paris	38	83
Luxemburg	28	80	Praskavik	38	83
Nairobi	28	77	Rome	37	81
Nassau	28	81	Stockholm	37	84
Nizhny	29	81	Tel Aviv	38	84
Nizhny	29	81	Toronto	37	81
Manchester	21	70	Vernie	37	81
Medan	21	70	Vinnia	37	80
Munich	21	70			

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Published daily except Sundays,
25 and 26 and Good Fridays by
Advent London, W1X 8JZ. Not
paid at New York, NY. Subscrip-
tion for 12 months, £27.00. Agents
42nd Street, New York, NY,
Tel: 212-696-0200.

chaos in London

Doctors 'failing to link between stress and illness'

Staff Reporter
Doctors do not always recognize the importance of looking at the job in diagnosing conditions, Dr Suzette, in, acting chief employment medical adviser, says in a report of the Employment Medical Advisory Service, issued yesterday.

There is still not yet that full consideration of an individual's work which is an integral part of the diagnosis, either of individual or general problems, she says.

At the same time, the ability to deal with stress is still often valued highly than the ability to prevent it.

Dr Suzette says the significance of the stress-medicine link is becoming widely appreciated, more than three thousand allied on the help of the service during its first 11 years up to the end of 1973. It appeared still to be of its existence.

The service, which employs more than a hundred doctors and 60 nurses, based in more than 50 centres throughout the country, was set up on February 1, 1973, and became part of the Health and Safety Executive on January 1 this year.

It works in cooperation with the national and school health services, and with doctors employed in industry. Of nearly 37,000 people referred to it for examination in 1974, about 1,400 were referred by GPs and hospital doctors. In all, 170,000 examinations were carried out either by GPs or on behalf of the service in 1974.

The report, emphasizing the need for greater general awareness of the importance of occupational medicine, says new measures will be needed to identify hitherto unsuspected effects. "A rapidly changing technology may give rise to new hazards at a speed which challenges our ability to monitor them", it adds.

Employment Medical Advisory Service: A report of the work of the service for 1973 and 1974 (Stationery Office, £1 plus postage).

low air

teeply BC2 plans emphasize regional programmes

Staff Reporter
Five new series appear in the autumn television schedule, Mr Aubrey Singer, the director of BBC2, said yesterday, the consequence of which production next year will be reduced because of having to stand by Singer said: "Television must have a pattern of repeats that we must have. It is our output."

Singer said one main aim of the new series would be to provide a series of programmes on the history of the world, from the beginning of time to the present. The series would be produced by the BBC's regional centres, with each region producing a series of programmes on its own history and culture.

Such a series, he said, would be a major contribution to the history of the world, and would be a major contribution to the history of the world.

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Gunnmen

police car after robbery

A police car was followed by a group of men after a robbery in the city of Oxford. The men were seen running alongside the car, which was carrying a woman. The police car was stopped by the men, who then ran away. The woman was taken to hospital, where she is recovering.

tribunal

Oxford on girl's case

Mr. Justice Goffe has heard evidence in a tribunal in Oxford on the case of a girl who was found dead in a field. The girl was 16 years old and was found on August 1, 1974. The case is being heard by a tribunal of three judges, who will decide whether the girl was killed by a car or by a person.

Pop fans

gallies

Pop fans gathered in the streets of London to watch the trial of a man who was accused of killing a woman. The man was 21 years old and was found guilty of the crime. The trial was held in a court in London, and the man was sentenced to life in prison.

lings

weather raises prices

Lettuces and cucumbers are expensive this weekend because of the weather. The weather is hot and dry, and this has caused the crops to be small and of poor quality. As a result, the prices of lettuces and cucumbers have risen.

Food prices

Patricia Tisdall

For some time and no change is expected next week. Cheeses are also popular during the hot weather, but prices of English Cheddar have gone up recently and, at more than 43p a pound, may prove prohibitive for many. But people with a particular taste for it who are working on lean budgets would be wise to buy now: more price increases are on the way.

Chicken

buy and cook

Chicken is always an economical buy and, when roasted, can be used cold in salads. Some stores are selling frozen chickens for as little as 25p to 26p a pound, which compares very favourably with meat and fish prices. There is usually a dip in sales of roasting and stewing meats in the summer, and the hot weather this year has meant an even greater falling off in trade than usual. Theoretically, many butchers should be cutting their prices to increase trade, but there is little sign of that.

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Today is India's Independence Day

Don't let the light go out on Indian democracy

FREE J.P.

Jayaprakash Narayan - follower of Mahatma Gandhi
Fighter for the independence of India
Leader of the nonviolent campaign against corruption
Unjustly imprisoned by the Indian Government on 26 June 1975
Now reported to be seriously ill in prison



We the undersigned, call on Mrs. Gandhi to free Jayaprakash Narayan and all political prisoners held without trial.

Janos Abel, Barbara Acouah, Frank Adu, Frank Allan, M.P., Dr. Gary J. Alder, Stanley Alderson, Victor Anderson, George Andrews, G. L. Andrews, G. S. Anisuddin, Convener of the Campaign for Restoration of Democracy in Pakistan, Vera Anstey, Pat Arrowsmith, Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Geoffrey Ashe, David Astor, Norman Atkinson, M.P., Lord Averbury, Ernest Bader, Gerald Baker, Brian Davies, M.P., Owen Davies, M.P., M. S. Dhillon, Davies, Comptroller de Commerce, Mathilde de Conches, R. Hon. Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, M.P., Bertrand de Jouvenel, H. M. de Lange, H. and K. Dasseu, Dhillon, Geo. H. Dixon, Milovan Djilas, Margaret Drabble, Shirley du Boulay, Hugh Dykes, M.P., The Ecology Party, Sir Robert E. E. Frank, A. Edwards, Benedict Elberg, Teresa Elberg, Robert Elberg, Dorothy Ewell, E. J. Bonnell, M. J. Bonnell, P. A. Bonnell, Richard Evans, M.P., Dr. Jeremy Bray, M.P., Heather Bremer, Hugh Brock, Lord Francis Brockway, Brian Brophy, J. Francis Brown, B. G. 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Mahatma Gandhi wrote of JP in 1940:

"The arrest of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan is unfortunate. He is no ordinary worker. He has forsaken all for the sake of the deliverance of his country. His industry is tireless. His capacity for suffering is not to be exceeded. I do not know what speech has brought him within the law. But if 1944 or the highly artificial sections of the Defence of India Act are to be inasmuch for catching inconvenient persons, then any person whom the authorities want can be easily brought within the law."

NARJAN: March 16 1940.

In 1956, JP said:

"Freedom has become a passion of life (with me) and I shall not see it compromised for bread, for power, for security, for prosperity, for the glory of the State or for anything else."

Jayaprakash Narayan.
*In Towards a New Society (1958, New Delhi).

THE FREE JP CAMPAIGN, 12 WATERMEAD LANE, CARSHALTON, SURREY (Phone: 640-2367/485-9182)

Chairman: Philip Noel-Baker. Secretary: M. S. Hoda. Asst. Secretary: Satish Kumar. Press Officer: Paul Connell.

NAME ADDRESS

PHONE

I enclose £..... towards the FREE JP CAMPAIGN (make cheques payable to Free JP Campaign—Midland Bank 81024221).

() Please send me a copy of SWARAJ, the uncensored bulletin, which is being sent into India () Please send me a copy of the booklet: "JP AND THE MOVEMENT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE IN INDIA." (Price 50p including postage.)

HOME NEWS

Tories plan campaign to get ruling on invalid small cars reversed

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

A big campaign will be launched by the Conservatives when Parliament reassembles if the Government refuses to reverse its decision to stop issuing four-wheel cars to some disabled drivers in January.

Disabled drivers are planning to bring pressure on the Government to increase greatly the 15-a-week mobility allowance, which will be their only alternative to an invalid tricycle if the decision stands.

Mr Morris, Under-Secretary of State for the Disabled at the Department of Health, announced the decision before the Ombudsman's report last week, which found that the risk of serious injury was four times as high in a tricycle as in a car. He has asked to see the report and it has been sent to him abroad, where he is on holiday.

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Conservative spokesman on health, said last night that he could not understand how the decision to withdraw small cars had been reached. The Government appeared to be victimizing a small group of people to whom mobility meant much.

"The invalid tricycle has been exposed as an unsafe vehicle and I know of no other country that is producing such monstrosities," he said. "This decision is deplorable, shocking and unfeeling."

The 3,000 people now driving four-wheel cars provided under the health service will be able to keep their vehicles and have them replaced. But no new

applications will be accepted after January 1, a decision that will affect 700 or 800 people a year. The decision will not affect hand-disabled drivers, 8,000 of whom have government-issued small cars.

The mobility allowance, which will be taxed, is expected to help 100,000 disabled people who are unable to drive and have been previously excluded from mobility aid. Married couples entitled to a small car under the present system will be eligible for £10 a week mobility allowance instead.

But AA estimates show that it costs a disabled driver about £14.80 a week to run a 350cc Mini. That figure excludes petrol and maintenance allowances available to present users of small cars, and the vehicle excise duty from which they are exempt. The Government intends to withdraw that exemption from recipients of the new mobility allowance.

Mr Peter Large, chairman of the Joint Committee on Mobility for the Disabled, said last night: "What is needed is a mobility grant to allow disabled people to buy the car they need, an allowance to help them to run it, and exemption from all motoring taxes."

The grant should be about £1,400 every five years, plus £200 a year. Mr Duncan Guthrie, director of the National Fund for Crippling Diseases, said: "Mr Morris has made the right decision in principle. It is fairer to give a mobility allowance rather than a few people tricycles or cars. But the mobility allowance is simply not sufficient."



Marilyn Monroe dress: A costume she wore in the film 'Bus Stop' was sold at Christie's yesterday for £380. The buyer, Mr Leslie Conn, intends to display it on a wax model.

Milk 'may have to be rationed' claim denied

By a Staff Reporter

The Dairy Trade Federation gave a warning yesterday that the continuing fall in milk production might endanger supplies this winter. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, however, said there was no reason to think that was the case.

Mr Nicholas Horsley, president of the federation, said: "We are very seriously worried because the milk supply situation is worsening." Liquid milk supplies had been safe so far, but if the deterioration continued the trade might have to examine the allocation of milk to bottling dairies.

The difficulties of the industry, in which output has been declining and cattle are being slaughtered, have been aggravated by a shortage of grass during the present hot, dry weather.

Farmers are campaigning for an increase in the guaranteed price they get for their milk, although they are due to receive an extra 2.2p a gallon from next month. This is expected to lead to a price rise of about 1p in a pint later this year. The main effect of the industry's difficulties is to cut the production of butter and other dairy products.

Unigate report, page 18

Man dead in cell was due to be married

A court was told yesterday that a man due to be married on Saturday had been found dead in a police cell.

Paul David McGuinness, aged 18, was due to appear on remand before magistrates at Leigh, Greater Manchester, charged with taking a car without consent and driving with no insurance and a licence.

Mr Arthur Blackhurst, for the prosecution, said: "He was found dead in a police cell in tragic circumstances, and I wish to withdraw the charges."

Mr McGuinness, of Lendhy Close, South Deane, Kirkby, Liverpool, had said he was due to be married on Saturday. Mr Blackhurst said the man had been afraid of losing his job if he was held in custody.

Report on barred orphans not prejudicial

An article about two Pakistani orphan immigrants was not calculated to influence the adjudicator on immigration appeal, the Press Council says in an adjudication issued today.

Mr J. Bennett, Chief Adjudicator on Immigration Appeal, submitted that it was ethically improper for the *Manchester Evening News* to publish an article concerning an immigration appeal, because the subject matter was still sub judice.

The newspaper published a "special investigation" in the form of articles headed "Pakistani orphans barred by Home Office." It said the Home Office had launched a top-level investigation into a case of two Pakistani children who were granted entry visas to Britain almost three years ago but had been orphaned while waiting for immigration officials to allow them in. It was suggested by the newspaper that the Home Office had conceded "unusual and abnormal procedures".

Mr Bennett said Mrs A. C. Davies, an adjudicator, had heard an appeal on the matter eight days before the news-

Student fined £100 over firework booby-trap

From Our Correspondent Cambridge

A graduate who caused two explosions by booby-trapping his room at Trinity College to stop students breaking in as a prank was fined £100 by Cambridge magistrates yesterday.

James Harold Davenport, aged 21, admitted unlawfully damaging a door in the college on May 31. A charge of maliciously causing an explosion was withdrawn on the advice of the Attorney General.

The charge arose from explosions in the room in the Great Court of Trinity College while Mr Davenport, a fourth-year student and a second lieutenant in the university Officer Training Corps was on manoeuvres.

Police, including the bomb squad, and firemen were called after a student had set off the first explosion by trying to pick the lock.

Mr Davenport was said to have wired his room to three large theatrical fireworks. He had done it, the magistrates

were told, because of a "silly custom" which had grown up among mathematics students at Trinity of breaking into each other's rooms.

Mr Davenport had told the police later how after a graduation dinner he had returned to his room to find a booby-trap placed over his door to fall on him, and 20 gallons of water in plastic bags on the floor.

He had thought it was safe because only mathematics students would try to get in and they all knew that the booby trap existed and that the room was "unhackable". The devices had been intended as a deterrent.

Mr Arthur Rose, for Mr Davenport, said that the student who had set off the first firework had decided to remove the furniture and hide it. Mr Davenport had never intended to harm anyone and was extremely repentant. He had been rusticated for a year, which meant he could not return to do research until October, 1976.

French perfume bottles gave short measure

From Our Correspondent Bradford

Bottles of scent from a French perfumery which was stated to contain several royal families gave short measure, Bradford magistrates were told yesterday. Each of six bottles checked was labelled "Not less than seven cc", but only one would hold seven cc, and it had only 5.8 cc.

Guerlain SA, of Perivale, Middlesex, a subsidiary of Guerlain Ltd, of avenue des Champs Elysees, Paris, was found guilty of six offences of being responsible for the sale of exposure for sale of bottles giving short measure.

Granting the company a conditional discharge for a year, Mr Sydney Peel, the chairman, said: "We are of the opinion that the adverse publicity to an old-established company which might occur if it were found in consequence than any monetary penalty we might impose."

When the firm was informed of the complaint it was explained that the bottles labelled sealed from France and the labels were attached in Britain.

Mr Michel Vincent, the managing director of the company, said that the offences had arisen because the firm had changed its production method.

'Observer' likely to publish this Sunday

Hopes rose last night that *The Observer* would appear this Sunday. Agreement between the National Graphical Association and the management on disputed points was reached.

The NGA negotiators agreed to a cut in staff, but not by the three tenths demanded by the management. A demand that led to the newspaper's not coming out last Sunday.

On Tuesday a peace formula was agreed between the management and officials of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades.

Mr Joe Wade, assistant general secretary of the NGA, said: "This agreement has been made on the basis that Lord Goodman, on behalf of the Newspaper Publishers Association, has given us an undertaking that the NPA will not seek to secure reductions in staffing at any other national newspaper on the basis of the agreement we have made with *The Observer*."

Lord Goodman is chairman of *The Observer* Trust and the NPA.

Murder charge

A young man has been charged with the murder of Elizabeth McLean, aged 18, whose body was found in a Lanarkshire field on Tuesday.

children had been refused entry. The Home Office did not say the case was sub judice and there was no suggestion that the information should not be published until the determination had been given. The information in the article was basically the same as presented to the adjudicator by the barrister. It was therefore difficult to see in what way the article could have influenced the adjudicator.

The Press Council's adjudication is: "It is a contempt of court to publish an article dealing with it would be through the court and in a recent case in the House of Lords (the Sunday Times child-molester case), although it was held that publication of an article in *The Sunday Times* would have been contempt if it was said that discussion of pending legal proceedings in appropriate cases was not forbidden even under the rules of contempt of court."

While the Press Council would deplore anything like trial by newspaper, this was not such a case. In the Press Council's opinion the article was not calculated to influence the decision of the adjudicator and were published in good faith. Accordingly the complaint against the *Manchester Evening News* is not upheld.

WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

European community defrauded of at least £2m last year

From David Cross, Brussels, Aug 14

The European Community was cheated out of at least £2m worth of funds last year, the European Commission announced today. These were all financial frauds which came to light, but some experts believe they are only the tip of an iceberg which could be costing the Community tens of millions of pounds a year.

The discovery of a further 13% excess of fraud in 1974 brings the total amount of money misappropriated over the past four years to nearly £8m in 360 detected fraud cases. But of this sum, £5m has been recovered after the settlement of some 100 cases. Steps are under way to recover the remainder.

The majority of frauds detected last year were in the cereals and dairy products sectors. They mostly involved false accounting entries or forging of documents to obtain export rebates and premiums for converting cereals into animal fodder.

One of the more popular frauds operated by dairy producers was to draw up fictitious claims for subsidies paid to keep milk away from the Community's surplus stockpiles. Forty cases of this kind were uncovered last year.

The Commission says that although it has stepped up its campaign to combat frauds by more on-the-spot investigations for its 1975 budget, a further tightening of controls over Community expenditure and revenue is required.

Among the measures it suggests are more harmonization of the methods used by member governments to inspect firms' accounts and a better communication network between national authorities and the Commission. Member governments are criticized specifically for their slowness in notifying suspected frauds to Brussels.

The latest fraud count is contained in the Commission's financial report of expenditure from the agricultural fund during 1974. This shows that last year's agricultural spending was some 15 per cent down on the level for 1973. But this saving will be partly offset by payments still to be made out of last year's budget for products like olive oil and beef. In any event, expenditure this year is expected to be higher than the original estimates and will swallow up last year's savings.

The figures reveal that more than a third of the farm budget was used to help dairy farmers: last year, out of a total expenditure of £1,200m, more than £500m was paid to this sector of the farming industry. Nevertheless this figure was some 20 per cent lower than the original estimate.

By contrast, the Commission grossly underestimated the amount of money actually required to help the Community's beef producers during last year's crisis in the industry. Its original estimate made in 1973 that a mere £8,500,000 would be required in this sector turned out to be at least £125m off the mark.

The skipper who sailed back to a jail cell

Palermo, Aug 14. — An American yacht skipper has been arrested in Palermo to serve a jail sentence imposed in his absence four years ago, police said today.

They named him as Albin William Bodie, aged 41, a former naval officer from St Louis, Missouri. He was arrested when he brought the American-owned yacht, Grace, into Palermo harbour with engine trouble. It was on its way to Corfu with eight Italian, Swiss and Argentine passengers.

The police said Mr Bodie was skipper on another yacht, the Nordlys, which rammed a fishing vessel off Cagliari, Sardinia, in October, 1971. The fishing boat sank and one man on board was killed.

Mr Bodie was later charged with causing a shipwreck and with manslaughter. At a trial in Cagliari in his absence he was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment.

The passengers on board the Grace were waiting for a new skipper before resuming their holiday trip. — Reuters.

Firefighters quell Lüneburg blaze

From Dan van der Vat, Celle, Aug 14

The fires which have ravaged 25,000 acres of Lüneburg Heath in north Germany over the past week appeared tonight to be under control.

The 13,000 troops and firemen fighting the worst outbreak some 20 miles north-east of Celle were helped today by a marked fall in wind strength.

The next most serious fire, in the Gorchleben area, was also under control after reaching a point only three miles from the East German border.

The decisive factor, apart from the falling wind, has been the completion by the West German Army of a ring of firebreaks, at least 200 yards wide, round each major outbreak. This work was done by tanks which simply smashed their way through the tall slender trees. Armoured bulldozers followed to push the debris clear.

This afternoon, Major-General Wilhelm Garken, commanding the First Panzer-Grenadier division in Hanover, took men on a helicopter tour of his "battlefield".

The general has brought 8,000 of his troops to the fire zone and commands the army's contribution, the main one in manpower and equipment, to fighting the largest outbreak.

Another armoured brigade is at Gorchleben. So overwhelming is the presence of the army that a tour of the affected area soon makes the observer wonder why there are so many bright red fire engines in a war zone, rather than so many military vehicles in a fire zone.

Apart from the 60 tanks at work here, there are fleets of helicopters from the Army, the Air Force, the Federal Border Guard and the police, and a remarkable collection of military vehicles of all kinds, including some British ones.

General Garken has set up his headquarters in a group of command vehicles parked in a field belonging to a farm in the village of Oldendorf. The farm itself has been commandeered as the coordination centre for fighting the fire, with a standing committee of representatives of all the services and organizations involved in non-stop sessions, pouring over maps in the farmer's living room.

General Garken, his boots covered in ash, and in need of a shave, said the main problem now was that the fire had gone underground, affecting the underlying peat. He pointed out areas of bog where smoke could be seen at the edges of sheets of water, as if the water itself were burning. This was from the peat. As soon as conditions permit he will send his men through the affected areas.

On the complexities of working with firemen, police, the Red Cross and many other agencies, the general said: "From my point of view, this has been a fine example of co-operation."

Arctic airport opening delayed by fog

Tromsø, Aug 14. — The official opening of the world's most northerly permanent airport and the fiftieth anniversary celebration of Norwegian sovereignty over the Spitsbergen archipelago were stopped by polar fog today.

A DC9 airliner with King Olav of Norway, Mr Trygve Bratteli, the Prime Minister, and 150 guests made a vain attempt in the afternoon to get down at the new Svalbard airport, but was forced to return here because of the weather.

King Olav, and the other visitors, had originally been due to arrive

More 'zones of calm' in Paris pedestrians

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Aug 14

From this evening until Sunday night some of the most famous parts of Paris will be reserved for pedestrians. These "zones of calm" include the vast forecourt of Notre Dame cathedral, the Pont Neuf, the Champs Elysees as far as the Place Clemenceau.

For five hours tomorrow, pedestrians will also be able to stroll across the Place de la Concorde and up the Champs Elysees as far as the Place Clemenceau.

Following last year's successful innovation of pedestrian areas at the peak of the holiday season, the Tourist Club de France had proposed this year a traffic-free area all the way from the Place Dauphine on the Ile de la Cité up to the Place des Vosges in the historic Marais.

But the Prefect of police vetoed this apparently excessive demand, saying it was not enough men to watch over the "dangerous" pedestrians.

A plan to decorate the Pont des Arts, the Napoleonic iron bridge over the Seine, with flowers and shrubs has also been vetoed by the authorities.

The French capital is one of the less bright spots in a review of the booming holiday season

just made public by Ducray, the Secretary for Tourism. He records for both French and foreign visitors that the city is doing well. But which visitors Paris is satisfactory. It stay now is only the only 20 per cent remain more than a Paris has been hit by what I described as the die of French and foreign makers this year is owing to tighter by Le Figaro recently to "fantasy prices ambling what force can be asked to French capital. An even season of the Club de France (16p) or 3.4 two places near the forces people to m stays. The first are the first to suff American tour according to official spend up to 250 fr day, are in notably this year, as are G spend an average of each a day.

But the Paris routes still claim it for a couple to visit in an one-hour taking only one me a restaurant, to sp to 100 francs a day

Links suspected between Basques and Galicians

From Our Correspondent Madrid, Aug 14

Spanish police today continued their hunt for dissidents in Galicia, north-west Spain, after a suspected activist was killed last week. General Franco and other members of the government are on holiday in the area.

Unconfirmed reports in the Spanish press today say that the police have discovered links between the Basque separatist organization ETA and the Union of Galicians. It is believed that Señor José Ramón Borroas Noya, who was shot dead on Tuesday in El Ferrol del Caudillo, in Galicia, was connected with the organization.

Police arrested two couples yesterday. A couple were also Santiago de Comp three people in Lus papers to make fa cards. Guns and were also found. A bookshop in 24 damage by a petro today.

Unemployment rising in France

From Richard Wigg, Paris, Aug 14

Unemployment in France continues to worsen. The Ministry of Labour announced today that at the end of last month 765,000 people seeking jobs were registered at labour exchanges. This is an increase of 3.6 per cent compared with the end of June and of 66 per cent compared to July last year. Seasonally adjusted, the figure rises to about 884,900.

According to trade unions, if those who do not judge it worth while to register are taken into account, the number of unemployed is now well over a million. President Giscard

Vorster Cabinet called to special meeting as thousands of refugees cause sudden crisis

Angolan whites pouring into SW Africa

From Nicholas Ashford, Johannesburg, Aug 14

South Africa suddenly has a serious refugee crisis on its hands. As the fighting in Angola intensifies, thousands of white refugees are pouring across the border into South-West Africa.

According to official estimates, between 5,000 and 6,000 have crossed into South-West Africa at the Oshana border post during the past few days, and at least 7,000 or 8,000 are expected by the weekend.

Latest bout of fighting in the Lobito port area is expected to drive out thousands more refugees in Nova Lisboa, most of whom are trying to reach South-West Africa because the planned mass Portuguese airlift has not got under way.

A refugee convoy, said to be some 100 miles long and comprising more than 2,000 vehicles, is making its way southwards from Sa Da Bandeira towards the border. It has not yet been sighted and it may have been stopped because new export regulations announced by Luanda imposed a "temporary" ban on the export of cars and a total ban on the export of lorries.

A special meeting of the South African Cabinet is expected to be held tomorrow to consider the problem. It will be presided over by Mr Pieter Botha, Defence Minister, who is acting Prime Minister. Mr Vorster is in Latin America.

So far the South-West African authorities appear to be coping with the refugee influx, although their resources are being severely stretched. Supplies of yellow fever vaccine have run out and more are

having to be flown from Africa.

According to Mr Ja Vorster, Commissioner for the Indigenous People of South-West Africa, are being doubled at a last transit camp where refugees are first sent. Refugees have already leaving the camp in fountains, about 400 mile south, where they moved to other camps. Pretoria, South Africa to start its own airlift to Portugal by:

The main concern at present is that diseases could break a people who have been on the road for weeks. Proper hygiene facilities are being set up, but cautions were being against a possible outbreak of cholera. So far no case has been reported.

6,000 call for removal of Lisbon Premier

From Michael Knipe, Lisbon, Aug 14

A widely representative crowd of about 6,000 supporters of the Portuguese Socialist Party marched four miles from the main square in Lisbon to the presidential palace tonight demanding the dismissal of the pro-Communist Prime Minister, General Vasco Gonçalves and his government.

The demonstration was held in defiance of the wishes of President Costa Gomes, who yesterday asked the Socialist Party leader, Dr Mario Soares, to cancel it. Similar demonstrations were held in Oporto in the north and Portimao in the south.

The demonstrators, who were chanting slogans like: "Vasco, listen, the people are in a fighting mood"; and "Vasco out", appeared cheerful yet resolute. They included men and women of every age and class and contrasted sharply with about 1,000 extreme left-wingers who marched in the opposite direction down a parallel street. Most of the young, bippy-style left-wing demonstrators were

clearly foreigners, mostly Italians and Germans, participating in a week of "solidarity with the Portuguese workers".

Elsewhere in the city the Communist Party held an indoor meeting which was addressed by Dr Alvaro Cunhal, its secretary-general.

The Socialists, who won nearly 40 per cent of the vote in the April elections, are demanding the appointment of a coalition government and the establishment of a pluralistic political system.

More than 80 per cent of the Armed Forces Movement (MFA) have now indicated their support for the moderate manifesto, which urges a slowing down of the revolutionary process and is extremely critical of the Prime Minister.

The radical elements of the MFA have produced an alternative document drafted by extreme left-wing officers and civilians which advocates worker control, but there is no indication yet of its gaining significant support.

The orthodox Communist line is rapidly being squeezed out of the MFA's ideological debate and the Prime Minister, its leading advocate, is increasingly isolated.

Indonesia: 'neutral' over Tim

Jakarta, Aug 14. —

Malik, the Foreign said today that Indonesia did not want to make Timor "another casualty to the former colony invaded and India in 1961."

"If we want to done easily because can be reached by Indonesian Timor: b the people there to Mr Malik told reporters.

After reports of Portuguese Timor, offered its protection day to the 650,000 of the colony "if to join the Republic mesia."

Mr Malik described ported camp as a "pr by the moderate Timor. He said that TUD feared the area was the hands of radical Portuguese authorities.

He said that TUD surrounded the Portary headquarters a arms from two poi



West German soldiers take a brief break from firefighting operations yesterday.

Flying over the fire zone showed that the walls of flame up to 100ft high which have been blown haphazardly through the forests and scrubland over the past seven days have at last died down after causing £10m worth of damage.

Palls of smoke hung over huge areas. On the ground it is as if summer and winter face each other across the roads, one side lined with undamaged trees covered in leaves, the other by charred, black trunks rising out of ash.

The flames were fiercest the ground is marked only by charred stumps.

General Garken, his boots covered in ash, and in need of a shave, said the main problem now was that the fire had gone underground, affecting the underlying peat. He pointed out areas of bog where smoke could be seen at the edges of sheets of water, as if the water itself were burning. This was from the peat. As soon as conditions permit he will send his men through the affected areas.

On the complexities of working with firemen, police, the Red Cross and many other agencies, the general said: "From my point of view, this has been a fine example of co-operation."

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Radioactive found in children's p

Frankfurt, Aug 14

today were trying to how a tube of strontium 90 came t bottom of a pu children play.

Thirty people, it number of children, to an emergency ap them to report f examination in case been contaminated activity.

Twenty council worke time of the danger active substance i yesterday near the hospital in the ci

VERSEAS

Discussions with Cambodian and Vietnamese guests may shape China's role in South-East Asia

David Bonavia
Aug 14

Mr Khieu when he arrives tomorrow, so far as is known, has had no substantive contacts with leaders of any other countries except North Vietnam since his escape from Phnom Penh.

Peking will be most anxious that Cambodia should not become an instrument of what it regards as Soviet expansionism in South-East Asia. It will hope that Cambodia will adopt a pro-Chinese foreign policy or at least pursue a neutral course similar to that of Burma.

It also seems likely that Mr Khieu will ask the Chinese for economic aid to alleviate what appears to be a disastrous situation in Cambodia. China could provide rice, oil and other essential supplies to ease the tribulations of the Cambodian population, if Mr Khieu requests them.

It is, however, of some importance to China that the problem of Cambodia should be sorted out neatly and expeditiously. Either he has a role in Cambodia or he has not.

If he has, the Chinese would feel that he should return as soon as possible to resume his place in public life. If he has not, it is unlikely that he will be welcome to remain longer in China with his large and expensive retinue. Peking would not want to seem to be again entertaining a rival Cambodian government.

Mr Prince Sihanouk does not come immediately to Peking to meet Mr Khieu. It will suggest that he is waiting to hear from the Chinese what they have learnt of the disposition of the Khmer Rouge towards him, and on that his decision about whether to return to Cambodia will presumably depend.

It was announced last night that Prince Sihanouk has approved a new role for Mr Khieu, who will be accompanying Mr Khieu to Peking as deputy Prime Minister for foreign affairs. This suggests that the Prince is prepared to relinquish



President Stroessner (left) welcoming Mr Vorster on his arrival in Paraguay.

S African loan for Paraguay

Asunción, Aug 14.—South Africa agreed to lend Paraguay some £3.3m today on the second day of Mr Vorster's state visit, the first by a South African Prime Minister to Latin America.

The loan agreements were signed by Dr Muller, the South African Foreign Minister, and his Paraguayan counterpart, Señor Sapena Pastor.

Emergency measures 'saved India from anarchy'

Delhi, Aug 14.—Mrs Gandhi, the Prime Minister, said today that her action in imposing India's first state of emergency was not the beginning of a crisis, but an attempt to end a crisis.

The political crisis had been threatening since the ruling Congress Party split in 1969, but it had assumed a tangible form in the past two years, she added.

"Suddenly we had a vision of this country going towards anarchy," she told delegates from 28 countries attending the General Assembly of the International Federation of Catholic Universities.

She then quoted Mr Kenneth Galbraith, the former United States Ambassador to India, who once described India as a functioning anarchy. It had become an "unfunctioning anarchy" recently, she said.

Use of climate as weapon a 'huge problem'

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Aug 14

Mr Alexei Roshchin, the Soviet delegate, told the 30-nation disarmament conference today that potential military applications of techniques for changing the climate or environment must be regarded as "a huge global problem".

Mr Roshchin cited instances of artificially-induced rain having flooded land and destroyed roads. These and similar measures, he said, could ruin the environment.

It was up to the conference to produce an international prohibition preventing such dangers and also preserving the environment.

Mr Roshchin made no reference to the Soviet draft convention on banning weather weapons, as submitted to the United Nations General Assembly last autumn, or to the recent discussions on the subject.

Prosperous Jordan is back in Arab fold

From Paul Martin
Amman

King Hussein is often likened to a gambler who is perpetually dealt bad hands but always plays them with exceptional skill.

Since the 1967 war, which robbed him of the most prosperous part of his kingdom and bequeathed him a wide range of problems, his luck has been anything but good. But in spite of the constant struggle his kingdom looks in surprisingly good shape.

The capital's main tourist hotels are full, not with tourists but with foreign businessmen and unbroken lines of delegations from other Arab countries. With Arab money coming in increasingly fast, what is basically a sedate and dull desert town has assumed an air of prosperity. Indeed, Jordanians insist that they are sitting on the new Arab boom.

All those who felt that crushing the Palestine guerrillas in the kingdom would be too high a price to pay have clearly been proved wrong five years later. For a time the leper of the Arab world, facing threatened political and economic strangulation, Jordan is back in the fold. The Rashidism of Syria and Iraq, the moneyed Arabs of the Gulf, and President Sadat's Egypt—Jordan can count them all among its friends.

The Jordanians can also claim that, with the Syrians, they are the only Arabs actively pursuing unity. But officials in Amman will be the first to point out that their relationship with the Syrians is born of relative strength. "Gone are the days when we are the friendless ones," one of King Hussein's advisers said. "The tables have turned—it is our enemies who find themselves friendless."

When the 15-lar summit conference voted the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) the status of "sole representative" of the Palestine people, it seemed that Jordan's role in the Middle East crisis had been taken away. However, King Hussein is confident that in time the Arab states will again call on him to recover Jordan's West Bank.

Although his country has dropped its plan for a united Arab Kingdom, offering to bring both banks of the Jordan under Hashemite rule, the hopes in Amman are that Palestine state or not, Jordan will have some constitutional link with the West Bank.

What has increased this optimism is the continued refusal of Israel and even of America to deal with the PLO, plus the PLO's own indecision. "So far the PLO has not gone any way to define its stand," one of the King's closest aides said. "It wants a Palestine state, but it will not accept Resolution 242. It wants to play a role in the bargaining process, but it will not recognize Israel's existence. These are contradictions which must be sorted out."

So the Jordanians are selling themselves as selfless defenders of the Arabs. The fact that Saudi Arabia has agreed to buy the Hawk missiles for Jordan, as well as other aid, shows that the policy has in fact paid off. Even the bitter dispute between the two Rashidist regimes in Damascus and Baghdad has not been allowed to impinge on Jordan's relations with either. While the meetings between King Hussein and President Assad are extolled as progress towards "the sacred goal of unity", Iraq has granted Jordan a loan of \$10m to develop Amman.

Jordan to sum up, is enjoying unusual prosperity. Foreign aid, particularly from the Arab oil states, is increasing, and the United States remains firm in its resolve to support the country's development schemes. The reopening of the Suez Canal has returned lost phosphate markets, and the mineral development programme, begun under the Hashemite and Aboob, will vastly increase export earnings.

How much of this wealth is filtering through to the ordinary citizen is a question seldom discussed by officials. "There is no doubt that some must be reaching the have-nots, but it's the old story of the rich getting richer," one Jordanian academic said.

Food shortage admitted by Khmer Rouge leader

Phnom Penh, Aug 14.—Mr Khieu has predicted in an interview that it will be two years before Cambodia can feed its people and that there has been progress in agriculture.

He gave no indication how the country was being fed at present. The Khmer Rouge ordered the people of Phnom Penh and other cities to leave their homes for the countryside in April and reports of widespread hunger and epidemics have been received out of Cambodia by refugees.

"We had to mobilize the entire population and begin moves towards production in collaboration with the Army," Mr Khieu Samphan said. "The big problems have been solved after three months. Factories are beginning to work, schools and hospitals are open and there has been progress in agriculture."

He gave no indication how the country was being fed at present. The Khmer Rouge ordered the people of Phnom Penh and other cities to leave their homes for the countryside in April and reports of widespread hunger and epidemics have been received out of Cambodia by refugees.

Laos to expel Thais held on spy charges

Vientiane, Aug 14.—The Laotian Government today ordered the immediate expulsion of two Thai deputy military attaches, arrested here last week on spying charges.

A Foreign Ministry statement said: "The Provisional Government of National Union, after studying scrupulously the nature of the activities of the two persons, has decided to expel them immediately."

The two officers will be handed over to the Thai embassy before departure, a Government spokesman said. The Foreign Ministry statement said they had confessed to their alleged spying activities.

Former dictator refuses to defend himself

Our Correspondent
Athens, Aug 14

George Papadopoulos, the Greek dictator, today refused to plead in his own defence before the Athens Court of Appeals trying him and 19 junta leaders on charges of treason and revolt for the coup of April 21.

The presiding judge, Dr. Deyianis, said: "I shall only rely on history and the people." The judge refused to accept the defence's plea that he was absent from the court.

Papadopoulos, like most former Army officers in power, has refused to participate in the proceedings since the military rule ended. He did not appear at an eventual sentence by a military tribunal. "I know I am guilty, but I do not accept," he said. "I assume full responsibility for my actions."

The judge had similar remarks from the dictator's former ally, Mr Nikolaos Makris, who said he was not guilty. Mr Makris refused to answer the charges.

Mr Papadopoulos told the court: "I am proud of my participation in the revolution of April 21, 1967. All my life I was a soldier and did my duty according to my conscience. I have nothing to add."

The four defendants refused to answer a question from the prosecution that they should name the members of the original revolutionary committee, or at least identify those among the 20 defendants who were not members. The court adjourned until Saturday.

When the court resumed today the court-martial heard the testimony of naval officers and one Air Force officer who said they had been tortured to make them confess their participation in the naval mutiny of May, 1973.

During cross-examination one of the defendants, Major George Tsallas, defied the president of the court to punish him for his arrogance towards a witness. He was given 12 months imprisonment for obstruction of court proceedings.

In another court today, Demetrios Vlachos, an actor, who was accused of participating in the coup, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment to be served even if appeal is pending.

The defendant, who was identified as a former colleague of one of the officers charged in the torture trial, claimed he had only tried to deter the deputy from molesting his friend.

Eritreans preparing to free Americans

Beirut, Aug 14.—Two Americans kidnapped a month ago by Eritrean secessionists are being taken to a place near the Sudanese border to make their handover easier, a senior official of the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) said today.

The Americans, Mr Stephen Campbell and Mr James Harrel, both civilians working at a United States Navy communications centre near Asmara, North of Addis Ababa, were abducted on July 14th.

Mr Abseir Yassin, the ELF Revolutionary Council's foreign relations spokesman, said the two men "are being transferred from near Asmara to places nearer the border to facilitate their handover."

Mr Yassin said after a press conference here that as far as he knew there had not been any contact with American officials about the two men. He said: "They are in fine condition."

Mr Bhutto and King Khalid to hold talks

From Our Correspondent
Rawalpindi, Aug 14

Mr Bhutto, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, is expected to make an official visit to Saudi Arabia for talks with King Khalid at the beginning of next month.

The Pakistan Times, which is owned by the state-controlled National Press Trust, said today that the visit has been arranged in order to establish personal contact between Mr Bhutto and King Khalid.

French ban on S Africa arms criticized

Addis Ababa, Aug 14.—The Organization of African Unity (OAU) expressed reservations today over France's partial ban on arms supplies to South Africa.

The OAU headquarters here issued a statement saying the new restrictions seemed to reflect "a progressive motivation" but fell short of halting what it called "France's shameful trade with racist South Africa".

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET BANGLADESH, IT TOO IS A DICTATORSHIP. NOT ONLY HUMAN BEINGS BUT HUMANITY ITSELF IS IN PERIL THERE.

250,000 Bengalis died in blood and fire. All the world urged the Bengali struggle for liberation and the right to live in human dignity. Bangladesh has been betrayed by a corrupt, inefficient and mercenary leadership. An entire nation has been backed into slavery by a few men who have seized power by their external patrons' aid. Bangladesh has been betrayed by a corrupt, inefficient and mercenary leadership. An entire nation has been backed into slavery by a few men who have seized power by their external patrons' aid.

Public Meeting: Sunday 17th September, 1975 at 9 P.M.
CONWAY HALL, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.2
Speakers to include British N.P.A. and Trade Unionists.
Organized by Combined Opposition Forces of Bangladesh.

For Campaign for Socialist Democracy in Bangladesh, 61 Finsbury Park, London, N.4.

\$19,000m suits filed over New York fiscal crisis

From Our Correspondent
New York, Aug 14

A New York lawyer has filed a suit in the federal court seeking more than \$19,000 (£476m) from each of nineteen separate defendants, including the Chase Manhattan Bank, the City of New York, and Mr Abraham Beame, Mayor of New York. The defendants are accused of defrauding purchasers of the city's notes.

Mr Burton Abrams says he bought \$25,000 of revenue anticipation notes last September and that he was substantially misled as to the true state of the city's financial position. At that time, he

French ban on S Africa arms criticized

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How today's China is preparing for tomorrow's world.

On September 30th, The Times is planning to publish its third Special Report on the People's Republic of China.

This year's Report will survey China's achievements over the last twenty-five years, examine her current trading position vis-à-vis the rest of the world and discuss the long-term prospects for over a quarter of the world's population who live within her frontiers. It will also take a look at China's little-known, but booming oil industry.

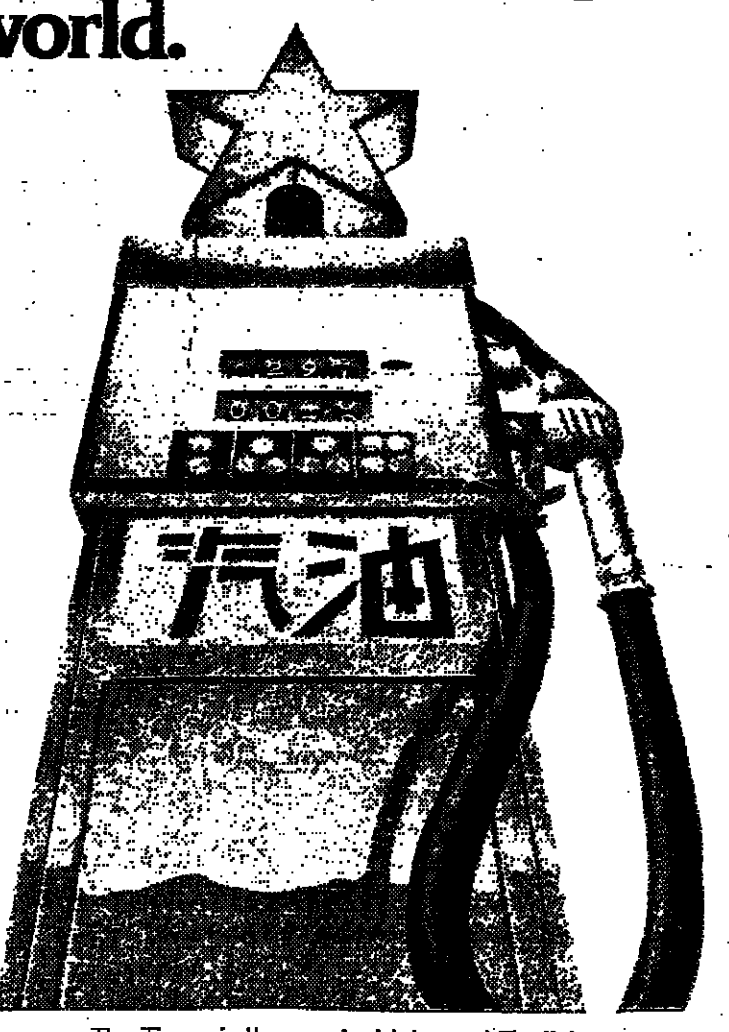
In addition, the Report will discuss Britain's disappointing share of China's world trade, with the exception of the aviation sector, and will consider what measures could be taken to regain the lost ground in this vast potential market.

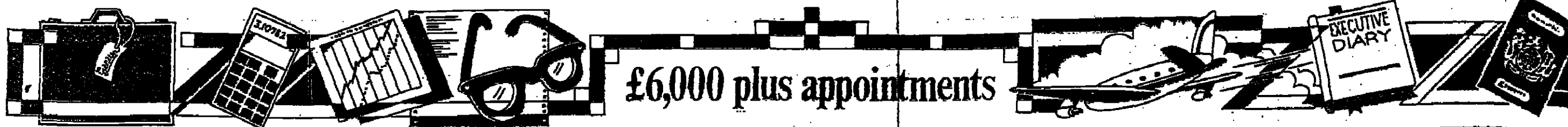
Major contributors to this Report will include David Bonavia, The Times correspondent in Peking, Richard Harris and a team of specialists in Chinese affairs.

The growing strength of trade links between China and the West make this Report a unique platform from which Western businessmen and companies can promote their goods and services.

The Times is the most widely read English newspaper in China today. Last year's successful Report on Trading with China was read in the main Buying Centres of the People's Republic. This year distribution will again include circulation amongst the Chinese Buying Corporations and exhibitors and visitors to the Canton Fair which opens on October 15th.

For further details about this Report, please contact: Alan Gray, The Times, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Or telephone: 01-837 1234, Ext 6195.





Chief Executive

£11,598-£12,555

The City Council are seeking a replacement for their Chief Executive (C. Peter Clarke, O.B.E.), who is retiring soon. We shall welcome applications from candidates who have the skills, experience and enthusiasm to tackle the exciting and challenging opportunity facing the head of the "officer team" in one of the fastest growing communities in the country. Peterborough's present population of over 113,000 is due to grow to nearly 200,000 in the next decade or so under the auspices of a Development Corporation appointed in 1968. The job specification is on lines suggested in the Bains Report, free from departmental responsibilities and requires co-ordination of advice to the Council in the broadest terms. Effective liaison with the Development Corporation is essential. We seek someone who can utilise to the full the enthusiastic efforts of officers of differing skills and personalities at all levels and give high priority to the need for good human relationships with elected members and officers. The salary scale is £11,598 rising by three increments of £219 to £12,555 plus fees (perhaps £300 a year) for duties as returning officer. There is no official application form but there is a memorandum about the post which will be sent on request by writing or telephoning the present Chief Executive (reference JMC, Town Hall, Peterborough (Tel: 0733 63141)). Closing date for applications is Saturday, September 20.

City of Peterborough

Steam Systems Specialist

£7,000

UNILEVER are seeking a Steam Systems Specialist to join the London-based Energy Section of their Engineering Division. He will provide an international consultancy service encompassing industrial and waste-heat boilers of all types, water treatment plant, steam distribution systems and integrated factory services systems.

A successful innovator is required, whose first-class professional qualifications are backed by wide experience in boiler manufacture and operation. Additional qualifications in managerial accounting would be very useful, as would experience in developing schemes to substantially reduce energy costs.

Applicants should be aged between 35 and 45, and must be able to justify a starting salary of £7,000. There is a contributory pension fund, and free BUPA membership is provided. Assistance with relocation expenses will be given where appropriate.

For an application form write or telephone: JOHN PRICE, Staff Manager, Unilever Limited, Unilever House, London EC4P 4BG, quoting ref. JEP/30. Tel: 01-353 7474 Ext. 3047.



Crown Agents

BOTSWANA

CHIEF MAGISTRATE

A vacancy exists within the Administration of Justice of the Government of Botswana, for a Barrister or Solicitor with at least 10 years post Call or Admission experience. The successful candidate will, in addition to the judicial duties usual to such a post, have various administrative and supervisory responsibilities regarding Magistrates of a junior grade within his district. Preference will be given to those applicants with Magisterial experience. The salary of this post will be on a short scale rising to approximately £8,730 (married) or £5,820 (single) which includes an allowance, normally tax-free, of £2,870 or £1,835 respectively. A 25 per cent gratuity is payable on the basic salary on completion of the tour, which will be on contract terms for a period of two to three years initially. Additional benefits include free passages for officer and family, subsidised accommodation, education allowances etc. An appointment grant of up to £300 and an interest free loan of up to £900 are also payable in certain circumstances. The post described is partly financed by Britain's programme of aid to the developing countries administered by the Ministry of Overseas Development. For further particulars you should apply, giving brief details of experience to: CROWN AGENTS, 4 Division, 4 Millbank, London SW1P 3JD, quoting reference MA/515/TA.

Royal Institute of British Architects



Chief Executive

The Chief Executive will be responsible to Council for the overall organisation and management of the Institute's affairs. Following a reorganisation approved by Council this appointment is of fundamental importance to the Institute.

Further particulars are obtainable by writing to: The President, RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London W1N 4AD Closing date for applications: 5 September, 1975.

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Why the marketing men are under attack

A survey report on British reps' current pay and expenses produced earlier this year was brightened up for publicity purposes with the heading "Bashful salesmen". It went on to suggest lightly that men and women in this sector of business were a modest breed. The reason according to JACK Research who carried out the survey was that unlike many of their counterparts in other sectors of industry and commerce, salesmen's incomes had over the previous two years, generally only increased sufficiently to keep pace with inflation.

"Perhaps that eloquent persuasive tongue and those winning ways are just part of the popular mythology about salesmen", the hand-out material declared gleefully. However, there is another possibility. Today's salesmen are particularly vulnerable in the current recession and the awesome danger of literally talking oneself out of a job may have occurred to more than a few otherwise valuable company front-men.

Now perhaps for the first time ever salesmen (on the domestic front at least) may have good reason to maintain a low profile—in common with colleagues throughout the marketing industry. Because the marketing men are under attack. The great "marketing concepts" of the 1960s and 70s already rank alongside "union greed", "political capriciousness" and "business inefficiency" in many economists' eyes as one of the root causes of raging inflation. But perhaps unlike its three alleged partners in crime, the marketing machine is already paying its own penalties. As the recession bites stocks are run down, companies' diversification plans go into reverse and the product lines diminish with the result that marketing becomes less effective and less necessary. This process has been luridly described as the "Revenge of the Marketing Concept" by business consultant Mr. Charles W. Faris. In a recent paper for the United States-based Boston Consulting Group, he claims that the penalties imposed by the recession are such that until the late 1950s most companies could be described as production-oriented. They made the product, attempted to expand the volume and reduce the costs. Companies competed to determine who could make and sell a standard product for less money and as a result constraints on growth and profitability were primarily internal.

However, by the early 1960s this was no longer sufficient and the nature of competition changed. Marketing men started to replace production men in the executive suite. The marketing concept was born, says Mr. Faris. No longer would businessmen sell soap or shoes or steel. "Rather they would satisfy wants and fulfil dreams."

This era of the marketing concept has no doubt led to many satisfied companies, he claims, but it has had a side effect which many companies failed to recognize explicitly. It tended to raise the per unit costs in each of the three major cost categories: production, marketing and overhead. Production costs went up, more models and variations were added to the product line, marketing costs rose as products were added to satisfy different consumer groups and overheads rose as companies added products and businesses which appeared to be synergistic, but typically were not.

Mr. Faris points out that as a natural reaction to the rising costs and consequently the marginal competitors became more focused, offering limited lines of high-volume items. And at prices 20-30 per cent below those offered by the traditional leaders. And he claims that the basic message is simple: "Now is the time to concentrate rather than to diversify the product lines; to focus on productivity rather than increasing marketing value added." Marketing and distribution, he claims, are major cost areas where rationalization and productivity improvements have been neglected for far too long. No wonder, then, that the sales and marketing men are currently reluctant to make too much fuss about their pay levels.

Richard Allen

Chief Executive

The Authority, one of the largest in England and Wales, serves 7¼ million people in an area broadly from the Scottish to Welsh borders and the West coast to the Potteries. It has 9,000 employees, annual revenue of about £130-million and capital expenditure of about £70-million annually.

Its responsibilities include water supplies, sewerage and sewage treatment, rivers management, fisheries, land drainage and appropriate recreation.

The Chief Executive leads a specialist management team responsible for all activities and implementing the policies and decisions of the 27-member Authority.

Candidates should have a proven record of substantial and relevant achievement at a high level in large-scale management. Experience in public sector services or in industry with a significant technical content and good qualifications in any discipline may each be advantageous.

Salary (national agreement): About £18,000

Application forms, for return by September 11, 1975, are available with further details from:

Chairman's Office,
North West Water Authority,
Dawson House, Great Sankey, Warrington, WARS 3LW.
North West
Water Authority

IF

IF you are a LAWYER,

IF you have a commercial instinct,

IF you regard the White Book as the bible of the commercial lawyer when obliged to fight for his clients in the Chancery,

IF yours be the fertile imagination essential to the best commercial drafting,

IF you are willing to work 3½ hours from Marble Arch, i.e., a few miles N.W. of Manchester—then tell us about yourself and the salary you would require (not less than £8,000) but only,

IF you really feel capable of commanding the loyalty of clients involved in property, finance, insurance, petrochemicals, etc. etc. THEN you could be responsible for the many substantial clients this "country" firm of solicitors is presently obliged to turn away (and even some of its existing clients).

Please reply with usual details to Box 0602S, The Times.

Opportunity for

Top Engineer

specialized in concrete prefabrication to develop, organize and direct a new plant of considerable size for Prefabricated Concrete Elements in Kuwait. He should be familiar with the most advanced production methods. Fluent English written and spoken is mandatory.

Application should be made to

Steiger Partner AG, Klausstr. 20,
CH-8008 Zürich, Switzerland,
General Management

Director

Institute of Hearing Research

The Council have resolved to take a major initiative in developing research in hearing. The aim of the Institute is to provide a base for staff and facilities for a major multi-disciplinary research effort in this field and to provide a national centre for the co-ordination and initiation of research in deafness. A major part of the research effort will be in the areas identified by their expert sub-committees on Deafness, particularly the epidemiology and systematic clinical characterization of deafness and the rehabilitation of the deaf. It is expected that the field research will need to be conducted as a multi-centre basis and hence there will be opportunities as an integral part of the Institute. The Institute will be funded, at least in part, under the new arrangements for commissioning research by the Health Departments who will also be responsible for providing the necessary Health Service facilities.

The person appointed as Director must have an established reputation as a scientific investigator in his own specialist field, and evident ability to manage a research team, as he would be expected to develop the Institute's research programme in addition to his own personal research, for which he would have facilities in the headquarters building of the Institute. Initially a major part of the programme would concern the setting up of multi-centre clinical studies and rehabilitation research. He need not necessarily be medically qualified, but will be required to establish collaborative links with clinicians. The location of the director's research interests and the need to organize studies at several centres. When the director has been appointed and his location agreed, negotiations will be opened with the appropriate university for the establishment of a Chair in Hearing Research. If the director's work makes it possible for him to hold an Honorary Clinical Contract, and this is awarded at Consultant level, he will be paid on the MRC Clinical Scale equivalent to the NHS Consultant Grade (max. at present £10,489 per annum). If the holding of a Clinical Contract is not appropriate, the director will be paid at MRC non-clinical rates at a suitable point in the range of up to £9,577 per annum. Superannuation provision under the MRC Pension Scheme.

Applications should be submitted no later than 30th September 1975 in the form of a statement not exceeding 2,000 words outlining in general terms the scientific programme that the applicant would wish to undertake, and indicating the type of staff and facilities he would require, together with a curriculum vitae and list of publications, to the Secretary, Medical Research Council, 20 Park Crescent, London W1N 4AL. Applicants should write for further particulars, including the Report of the Sub-Committee on Deafness, to the same address.

MRC
Medical Research Council

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Applications are invited for the above appointment to the retirement of the present Director in 1975. To ensure a safe and efficient system, the Director, under the instructions of the Council, will be responsible for the financial and its relevant Committees, carries responsibility for the direction in all departments of the Council operations and administration.

The Director is a member of the Chief Officer and leads a department of approximately 250 staff. He will be expected to provide a service, for all departments and departments of the Council, of financial advice and information.

Applicants should be members of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy with able experience at the highest levels of financial management and administration.

Closing date: 29th August

Ref. No.



For application form please telephone or write to: The Director of Finance, Camden Council, 100, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LH. Tel: 01-253 2222. Closing date: 29th August 1975.

Appointments Vacant

GENERAL VACANCIES

DESIGNER

World renowned fashion house manufacturer tailored costumes for the top RTW market in COATS, SUITS, DRESSES, rainwear and sportswear.

A unique opportunity for a talented and ambitious to take a leading part in a highly professional experience in co-ordinating a large range of merchandise vital.

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Immediate opportunity to join International Computer Manufacturers' London office. Knowledge of stock control and made literature an advantage.

Good salary, plus London allowance according to age and experience.

Please phone Alan Haddow on 01-580 1803

TUTOR WANTED

for 17-year-old girl, age and sex irrelevant. Must have a strong interest in Art, History and Geography. A level 1 or 2. Must be able to instruct in English, French, Latin, Italian, Spanish, German, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, etc. Salary by negotiation. Box 0448 S. THE TIMES.

INTERVIEWER (male)

If you have an extensive knowledge of interviewing techniques and a good understanding of office procedures, we may have a job for you. Please send your resume to: Employment Agency, 20, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LH.

FRENCH MOTHER TONGUE

Present in London, young male 25-30, bilingual French/English. To be interviewed for immediate position in management. Training salary £2,000 per month. Please send resume to: Employment Agency, 20, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LH.

POSITION VACANT for young man

Executive, must have at least 4 years experience in a senior position in a large company. Must be able to read and write English and French. Salary £10,000 per annum. Please send resume to: Employment Agency, 20, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LH.

WELL EDUCATED young man will

be a good fit for a position in a large company. Must be able to read and write English and French. Salary £10,000 per annum. Please send resume to: Employment Agency, 20, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LH.

W.C. Kitchen, White Sports Hall

Operator requires Sales Representative. Salary £10,000 per annum. Please send resume to: Employment Agency, 20, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LH.

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EXECUTIVE

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PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF NORTH TYNESIDE
LIBRARIES AND ARTS DEPARTMENT
PRINCIPAL LIBRARIAN
(SCHOOLS LIBRARY SERVICES) AP6 (ES.825-83.005)
This is a new service and the person appointed will have a staff of 15-20 librarians. The post is full time, 37.5 hours per week, and the salary is £5,000 per annum. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and maintenance of the library service in the borough. The post holder will be required to have a degree in library studies or a related field, and to have at least five years' experience in a similar post. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Nairobi
Kenya
Applications are invited for the post of

PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION, ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT
Candidates should have a degree in education or a related field, and at least five years' experience in a similar post. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

University of Ife
Nigeria
Applications are invited for the post of

PROFESSOR OF DENTISTRY
Candidates should have a degree in dentistry or a related field, and at least five years' experience in a similar post. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

University of Glasgow
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Applications are invited for the post of

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS
Cook/Housekeeper
Required for family of four, to live in house in East London. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

WORKING
Cook/Housekeeper
Required for family of four, to live in house in East London. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

SUNNY IRAN
English speaking lady under 35 years old, with experience in teaching, to live in house in East London. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

EXPERIENCED MAN SERVANT
For permanent position in large country house, willing to work in all parts of the house. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

EXPERIENCED COUPLE
Cook, housekeeper, handyman, gardener for young couple in large country house. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

HOUSEKEEPER - COOK - COOK - COOK
Required for family of four, to live in house in East London. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

TEHRAN, RESPONSIBLE, mature
Cook, housekeeper, handyman, gardener for young couple in large country house. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

MOTHERS HELP HARVEY, Ozm
Canadian family with 4 children, 13 & 12 yrs. Opportunity to live in house in East London. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

AU PAIR BUREAU PLEASANTLY
Required for family of four, to live in house in East London. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

STUDENT, Room and board
Required for family of four, to live in house in East London. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

STUDENT in cook, garden, mail
Required for family of four, to live in house in East London. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

REQUIRED
Cook, housekeeper, handyman, gardener for young couple in large country house. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

ABUNDANT Cook housekeepers
Required for family of four, to live in house in East London. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the local area and to be able to work with schools and the community. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the library service and to be able to develop and maintain it.

Why rural public transport could be in trouble



The dial-a-bus (above) is an important element in many rural transport systems. But, as Horace England explains, the problem of providing an adequate service in rural areas is a more complex one.

Bus services in rural areas are again in danger of being drastically cut unless county councils begin to face up to the responsibilities they were given last year. Local government reorganisation brought so many new problems that the provisions of Section 203 of the Local Government Act of 1972, which came into effect in April, 1974, have tended to be overlooked or misunderstood.

Faced with the prospect of these further cuts in service, some counties think they see salvation in acquiring yet more powers, before they have explored those they have so recently been given.

For many years, in most rural areas, local authorities have traditionally taken an entirely negative view of public transport. Their attitude in dealing with applications for increases in fares, causing severe financial problems in today's inflationary conditions, has been one of the complaints voiced by operators and control by local authorities would be likely to worsen the situation.

The traffic commissioners, through their chairman, also control the licensing of goods vehicles, and there is in existence a good system of licensing and enforcement, ensuring the safety of all commercial vehicles. Are those authorities seeking licensing powers contemplating the building of a duplicate system and adding a further burden to the already greatly increased taxes borne by the public?

A final point regarding the traffic commissioners: what would happen to the safeguard of the present appeals system if counties became the licensing authorities?

Supposing local authorities were allowed to control local bus services, where are they to obtain the staff with sufficient experience to undertake the work?

Most of the independent operators in the rural areas do not have large clerical or administrative staffs, and therefore the authorities would have to look to the National Bus Company or its subsidiaries for the necessary facilities. This in turn might lead them to seek a complete takeover of these subsidiaries, with the result that many of the local authorities would be left with a very small number of operators, and a very small number of vehicles.

At this time of year, when the local authorities have prepared their budgets, they are now having to prepare their transport policies and programmes for submission to the Government: and these will determine the amount of grant each authority will be given in subsequent years. Consequently, suggestions that authorities be given some of the powers of the traffic commissioners, or even become passenger transport authorities (like the metropolitan county councils) must be scrutinised most carefully.

It is true that the appropriate sections of the 1972 Local Government Act have given the authorities the task of coordinating local policies on passenger transport. Unfortunately, there are those who have wrongly interpreted this as meaning that they must control or even run the bus side of passenger services in their area.

The most fundamental issue is the succession of the traffic commissioners. What would this mean in practice? The traffic commissioners and their staffs are people of great experience of all aspects of public transport: their role is completely objective and impartial; and their basic purpose is, in the widest and fullest sense, to serve the public interest. As the public interest is a compound of many individual and collective interests this involves compromise based on the practical possibilities of the situation. The compromises will be unpopular in some quarters, but they need in no way run counter to the new powers of local authorities, and they are insulated from political pressures.

It is to be hoped that when a national assembly is established in Scotland it will not seek to abolish this licensing system which, at least potentially, the best protection of the public interest.

At the present time the traffic commissioners are concerned with licensing for all forms of transport by road—not only the ordinary bus services but also express services, tours and excursions. The last two types have enabled many operators to continue providing ordinary bus services, but it is these very services which cover areas much larger than any country. Breaking this connexion would be a retrograde step.

authority were prepared to delegate its licensing powers to an individual (which seems unlikely in the context of the desire to take direct control) there would almost certainly be longer delays in reaching decisions than is now the case with the traffic commissioners. Delays in dealing with applications for increases in fares, causing severe financial problems in today's inflationary conditions, has been one of the complaints voiced by operators and control by local authorities would be likely to worsen the situation.

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The introduction of party politics into local government in some of the rural areas, and with different parties in control in neighbouring areas (for county boundaries rarely have relevance in transport terms), means that there is likely to be more rather than less divergence of views than exists today. Also, unless an

Postgraduate education: Action is needed now

It is not only British universities that appear to be under pressure; the recent conference of European Rectors devoted a lengthy and rather tortured discussion to "universities in a state of economic crisis" and it was clear from that session that most European universities are in financial difficulties.

However, it was noticeable that our European colleagues envied the dual funding system that we operate in this country—the basic financing of departments being a matter for the University Grants Committee and the cost of special research topics being met by the research councils. This system gives British universities considerable flexibility in their response to urgent national needs for research and for trained people, particularly post-graduates, in special fields.

But for British universities there is an inner crisis relating to postgraduate education particularly in technology. British universities have had distinguished research schools in pure science for many years but it has been a long struggle for our engineering schools to attain similar distinction. Substantial expansion in the number of engineering postgraduates in the fifties and sixties led to much criticism, particularly from industry, that universities were taking too many of their own students for research.

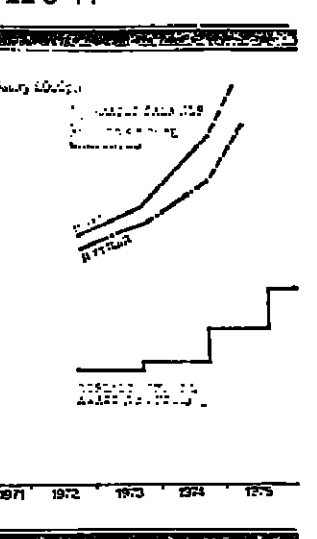
This criticism was unfair, because a large number of engineering graduates were still going on to industrial posts, and the percentage staying in the universities was much less than in pure science. But the criticism has struck home and there is still some lack of confidence between the engineering schools and as a result industry. Industry has criticized the universities for working on irrelevant topics—quite unjustly in my view—and universities point to the lack of financial support from industry (only 3 per cent of science and technology students are funded directly by industry).

The Science Research Council—the main body for funding science and technology research in the universities—has a successful record. Our astronomers and physicists win world renown—two Nobel Prizes won by the Cavendish Laboratory in the past three years—and we rate highly in international league tables for pure science. Big science (astonomy and nuclear physics) absorbs much of the SRC funds, but the argument is put forward that the investment produces sound results in terms of scientific achievement. SRC also funds major schemes in technology—three in control engineering for example—and encourages applications for projects which are "timely and promising".

The quality of work in our engineering schools is just as high as in pure science relative to world standards, but the trouble is that there is no strong British tradition of young men staying on to do postgraduate work in technology. The holder of a master's degree from an American technological university can now command a higher salary than the graduate from a business school. Yet for the British student the rewards are not comparable, and he does not normally look to a masters degree for furthering an industrial career in research, design, development and production.

Many distinguished committees have devoted much time and effort to finding a solution to the problem. Broader courses in engineering (total technology), joint interdisciplinary courses, cooperative awards (with industry) in science and engineering—all have been tried, but so far with limited success.

But surely the basic problem is financial and economic. An



Percentage of postgraduate students in engineering and technology, 1961-1974

engineer wants to work in the applied area and he expects to find his way into industry in due course. While there is no financial incentive in terms of a better salary at the end of the course and while there is a substantial financial penalty to be paid during postgraduate training, it is hardly surprising that engineering schools cannot recruit sufficient numbers of British postgraduate students. A young engineering graduate can now expect a salary of some £2,500 to £3,000 a year on graduation, as opposed to a research studentship at the rate of just over £1,000 a year (admittedly tax free). There seems to be little hope of establishing the MIT practice of "going on for your Masters" in this financial climate.

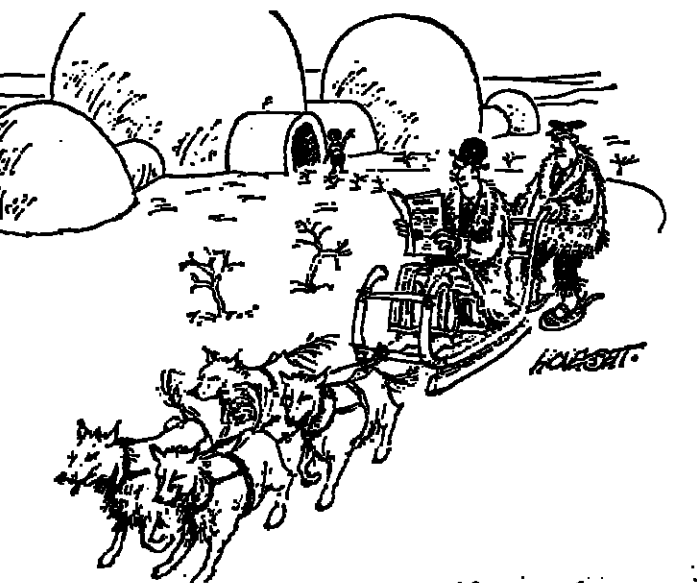
A vacuum has been left in postgraduate schools by British students simply showing no interest. But important research work has to be done and many overseas students have come to do it. They make up some 50 per cent of the postgraduate student body in many of our major applied schools in London and Manchester and the position is similar elsewhere. My own special research laboratory at Cambridge recruited seven students (six British, of whom five came back from industry) three years ago, but this past year could recruit only two or three overseas students. Apparently our postgraduate schools are very attractive to overseas students prepared to live at subsistence level to gain a master's or doctor's degree, but less so to our own young people.

The problem may not be immediately evident to the Government, although the Parliamentary Science and Technology Committee is investigating research funding—in particular the Science Research Council—has been taking evidence and may have become aware of it. Such a weakness in technological postgraduate education is not a problem that is immediately obvious to the public at large but it is a very serious one. If we cannot match the high quality young postgraduates from European and American schools in such important fields as engineering, production and manufacturing, the future is bleak indeed. Unfortunately, at a time of economic and financial crisis, it appears that money—and in particular adequate postgraduate grants for technology students—is the major requirement to put things right.

The parliamentary committee is not alone in its study of research funding. The Science Research Council, a joint SRC SRC committee and the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals are all considering postgraduate education in a wide sense. A preliminary "green paper" has just been produced by the committee, and we hope that publication of their reports will lead to an increased appreciation of the importance of postgraduate work, particularly in technology, and some swift action.

J. H. Horlock
The author is Vice-Chancellor, University of Salford.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

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OPERA AND BALLET

COLISEUM (01-254 2161)
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
 Tonight, Tue. 7.30. The Merry Widow. Tomorrow, Wed. 7.30. The Merry Widow. Next week: Swan Lake.

CONCERTS

PROMS 75, Royal Albert Hall, 7.30.
 Sir Colin Davis, conductor. Works by Debussy, Ravel, Schostakovich, Shostakovich.
PURCELL ROOM 1928-1931, London.
 Tonight, Tue. 7.30. The Merry Widow. Tomorrow, Wed. 7.30. The Merry Widow. Next week: Swan Lake.

THEATRES

ADOLPH THEATRE, 836, 7611.
 Tonight, Tue. 7.30. The Merry Widow. Tomorrow, Wed. 7.30. The Merry Widow. Next week: Swan Lake.

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THE ARTS

The Africa that never was

Le Retour d'Afrique (aa)
 Gate

The Merchant of Four Seasons (x)
 Gate

The Happy Hooker (x)
 London Pavilion/
 Metropole, Victoria/
 Astoria

Dick Deadeye (u)
 Plaza 2

The Apple Dumpling Gang (u)
 General release

The films of Alain Tanner, or at least the trilogy formed by *Le Retour d'Afrique*, *Le Retour d'Afrique*, and *Le Retour d'Afrique*, have a distinctive mixture of despondency and optimism. Along with despair in the face of the immutable and oppressive mass of Swiss society is a conviction that individuals are capable of change and resistance. Vincent and Françoise in *Le Retour d'Afrique* realize both possibilities—the capacity for change in themselves and the possibility of resistance instead of submission. He is a gardener, she works in an art gallery.

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Both are caught up in a world of petty capitalism, of every man for himself. The only solution to a vague but growing feeling of claustrophobia seems to be to run: they decide to seek a new life in Africa.

Accordingly they sell everything in their flat and throw a farewell party. After this, of course, when there's a hitch and their departure is postponed from day to day, they cannot face the embarrassment of telling people, and so shut themselves up in the empty flat in the empty and condemned house. The uncomfortable, unspoken feeling grows upon them that they will never go to Africa.

For all that, they return from their incarceration as if from a long journey. Their own city looks quite different. Vincent can come out of his refuge in the unreal world of the cinema, back into a real society. They are no longer running, but strong enough to work, to become social beings, to resist the pressures of absorption into a bourgeois life, to learn the lessons of the emigrant Spanish worker friend who is moved on out of Switzerland, to conceive a child who may be the next enemy.

After the re-emergence the film gets a bit obviously schematic, weaker for its realism with the look of a much more ordinary political film. Up to that point, however, it is as good as anything the gifted Tanner has done. He is a director whose intellectual rigour goes along with an un inhibited passion for his medium; his virtuosity lies in the unerring correctness of his austere black-and-white images. Nor does an ultimate sense of social despair detract from the human affection and the humour, which can be whimsical (in the familiar games of Vincent and Françoise's marriage) or vigorously satirical: in a lovely scene at the end of the film a policeman, an official and a civic gardener arrive in due formalities to chop down a sad, brave little tree that is growing where it shouldn't, in a bleak courtyard.

In the films of the West German *Wunderkind*, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, reveal the constraints of petty bourgeois society are always doomed. In *Fear Eats the Soul* the little old lady who defies convention by marrying a coloured man half her age will lose him in the end; in *Might Makes Right* the tough collector of dog excrement is fatally exploited by the capitalist pooves. Fassbinder's most recent film, the controversial *Mutter Küsters Fahrt zum Himmel*, shows an old lady exploited by the left revolution itself. The title of this film is a play on the title of a famous left-wing film of 1929, Piel Juck's *Mutter Krausens Fahrt im Glück*, emphasizes Fassbinder's evident allegiance to the 1920s German realist school of "street films".

Fassbinder, however, are less street films than kitchen whether acting benevolently, that realizes that he is the biggest seamer of the lot. At which point the moral centre drops out of the drama.

The only non-seamer is Isabella, but there is no comfort there either. "More than our brother is our chastity," says Penelope Wilton, favouring the housewife's hand. She means it. She falls on Claudio in murderous hysteria when he asks her to save him; and goes through the Mariana in a mood of icy disapproval. The way is thus prepared for an ending where the arch-trickster meets the absolute puritan. At the Duke's proposal, she backs away from him in nervous horror, plainly heading for the convent never to reappear.

Miller evidently sees it as a morality play with no moral centre of gravity. He has brought the action forward to the time of Freud's Vienna (backed with pastiche Schoenberg by Carl Davis) and localized it in a society where instinct is stifled by the code of correct behaviour: the zone, in short, of civilization and its discontents.

In stage terms the advantage is that the debate can be conducted with microscopic precision and that virtually every character from the brothel keeper to the Duke's deputy can exemplify the same repressions.

As other directors have realized, the key to the play is the Duke. Miller's contribution is to ask the right question about him. Not, why does he hand power over to Angelo; but what does he do after that decision? "Here we may see," he announces, "if power change purpose, what our seemers be." From that speech other productions have built the Duke into an emblem of Providence ordering human affairs. But in Joseph O'Connor's performance it leads to the exactly opposite conclusion. Mr O'Connor cuts an entirely convincing figure as elder statesman and father confessor; so convincing, indeed,



Going nowhere—François Marthouret and Josée Destoop in *Le Retour d'Afrique*

films. Constantly the action revolves around the neat working-class kitchen, the cramped family dinner tables, the communal stairs where a chorus of hard-faced women scandalize and comment on the action.

Yet Fassbinder is incurably romantic too: always somewhere in the background there is a frustrated dream. The battered hero of *The Merchant of Four Seasons* from time to time puts on a gramophone record of a kitschy sentimental Italian ballad which suggests some unspecified moment from the lost past, perhaps shared with the lady of worn beauty who turns up at his funeral with red lips and red roses when all the other people in his life have been figures of love and beige: "she was the love of his life," explains the unemotional widow, as if she were naming the variety of a rose beside the path.

Hans, the hero, has always been the victim both of women and of his own physical and spiritual smallness. He is humiliated to hear a neighbourhood play him, "that such a small man should marry such a big woman". It was his mother's foolish ambition that drove him to run away to the Foreign Legion. It was the passing temptation of a whore which got him into the sack from his decent job as a policeman and forced him to earn his living as a fruit pedlar. His wife is a passionate, quiet bully; and their little daughter already shares something of her con-

tempt for him. When he has a heart attack and is forced to take on an assistant, the wife makes use of the second man to add to the humiliations from which Hans finally seeks release by wilfully killing himself with alcohol. A small and vicious coda suggests that Hans will not be the last victim.

In its way *The Merchant of Four Seasons* is more stylish than the obviously stylized *Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant* or *Effi Briest*. In his search for a "naïve" style—which began with this film—scenes and dialogue and the characters themselves are refined to bare essentials: the camera selects to give the images a corresponding rhythm of daily drudgery is periodically broken by precisely choreographed set pieces like the scene where the family group themselves protectively around the wife to protect her from her "brutal" husband.

Fassbinder's economy both of effect and of production (the film was shot in only 11 days) is clearly made possible by the close understanding between the director and his loyal stock company. Here the husband is played by Hans Jurgensen, the wife by the incomparable Irm Hermann with her special ability to invest drab grey ladies with a touch of demonism.

Xavier Hollander is a lady who went from success to success—from secretary of the year

in her native Holland, to New York's top madame, and then to bestseller when she published four spicy volumes of the intimate memoirs of her established clients. The *Happy Hooker*, the film version of these, written by William Richert and directed by Nicholas Sarno, doesn't really do much for her or anyone else. It turns out to be a rather more than really dirty, swirly rather than funny. I suppose it might be taken as an odd marginal note on America's Nixon era, with its Top Executive who has his aides supply strippers who perform on the boardroom table while he sits grimmerly in the chair, and its image of the sexual subjugation and immaturity of the American male. Xaviera's last words, spoken to a beaming old shopkeeper, are "You're all boys". It is given what life it has by Lynn Redgrave, who talks devil-may-care through the title role.

They have at least the grace to keep the names of Gilbert and Sullivan off the printed credits of *Dick Deadeye*, which might save some uneasy turning in the grave at the idea of a portmanteau rock Savoy opera. The design of this animated film is by Ronald Seale, whose sets are often a splendidly spheric (expressionist) crooked streets; dustily stately Victorian architecture; creaking men o'war, a wansly Mikado, but whose characters have a misanthropic ugliness which is finally dispiriting, and

who rather nestle i Dick Deadeye as a distracting plainness. It is always hard on animated films, cause they have in herculean labour; I mation here is weak gative for the m characterization is for of the action is listing about and m in him to the m rouses nostalgia for riveness of the m bers in the great features. The direc Melendez.

Disney has rather don just now, incide the Odeon, St Ma redecorated with bi all the Disney cha Disney melodies figures of Mickey i in the foyer. The licer Thiries, m about the notices the Mickey Mouse.

The latest piece Old Americana o *The Apple Dumpl Jolly Old West y card-sharper who with three orphan foreseen bride, and get rich and app lot of grinning v children creditabl ness. The film is d characteristic stud Norman Tokar.*

I will be writing *Rocky Horror Sh. Drowning Pool in n column.*

cast light on Harr capitalist ambitions be moved by the lessy pregnancy broken with such a unborn child) if scored Harry's fail municate with his c it would be worth pressing longing f next door in the fir did so in terms bih second an event tended to move u nothing connects I peripheral characte poorly enunciated, flective songs (a Michael Garrick w guitar accompani Not since his clu have been such a production by Pe mas: the arage so the action like illustration to a never have I seen a cast display so litt lower touching snc strangers a mothe running out of the the son who is gain life. It won't do.

part of Brahms's content is intimat graphical. Here th was Lynn Harrell, i society and wi plangent tone.

But again the i like an enjoyable from six splendi musicians, such a at home, rather th committed concer tione.

The two Brahms separated by Ravel piano trio, bring Laredo and Lynn partnership with Goode. This w balanced and phrased even if too i pliable.

It was in some senses an uneven performance, in other senses a too even one (the triplet quavers of the first subject were unkindly smoothed out into duplets). But Mr Wilde deserved his ovation, if only for refusing to treat the piece as an old warhorse to be kicked and cajoled into sensibility.

The BBC Welsh accompanied elegantly under their chief conductor, Boris Brott. In general their playing was oddly balanced, with the woodwind far too obtrusive, particularly in Brahms's Third Symphony, and the strings correspondingly subdued. But balance is always a tricky subject in the Albert Hall. So much depends on where one happens to be sitting. As for Boris Brott, he took the players confidently

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

'Euryanthe' at Hamburg

The first production of the Hamburg opera season takes place on Sunday: Weber's *Euryanthe* with Judith Beckmann in the title role. Marek Janowski is the conductor.

During the opening week of the season *Le Traviata* will also be heard, with Hildegard Urmacher as Violetta and Bernd Wäldi as Giorgio Germont. The conductor is Jesus Lopez-Cobos.

Harry in the Night

Stoke-on-Trent

Charles Lewsen

John Wain belongs to that generation of novelists whose vitality infected the dramatists of the 1950s and opened our theatres to the breath of life, making them platforms for burning issues. It would be good to report that in this first stage play he had given our theatre a new shot in the arm—direct rather than by proxy—but it has to be said that *Harry in the Night* is a sorry, tedious, mess.

For a start, it is not clear for 20 meandering minutes what has moved Mr Wain to write the piece. Then he presents us with a succinct and delightful scene of a man reaching Powellite middle age, battling the twin enemies of VAT and the Trans-Union and General Workers' Union; and when, after some slack interludes, we learn that Harry Hargreaves plans to change the name of his business from "Hargreaves Hardware and DIY" to "Harry Hargreaves

Enterprise", and to take his secretary, now called personal assistant, to Hamburg for a business conference, a potential drama of middle age is in sight. However, Mr Wain takes no consistent view of the character, which does not help Jim Wiggins, a modest but appealing actor; nor does he consistently make Harry his focus, which does not much help the audience.

The reason it takes us more than an hour, despite the helpful tide, to grasp that Harry is the protagonist, is that long scenes are given up to those about him—wife, son, daughter and brother. Fair enough: the man's family are extensions of him and worth knowing about; but Mr Wain falls lamentably to convey facts about the family that are germane to the crisis in Harry's life (Linda the secretary fails to come to Hamburg, where he has an unhappy night in a brothel which in dramatic form, makes something slightly more com- pact of the second half).

It would be interesting to know about the labourer's son's filtration with Marxism if that

lessly self-critical, went so far as to call it beautiful. But probably Clara Schumann and her lessy cousin, the mark when expressing disappointment in the finale. Here it is impossible to escape the suspicion that the craftsman in Brahms takes over from the artist—or music came up on Wednesday with a rarity in the shape of his first string quartet in F, opus 68, written as he approached his half-century. Even those who pursue the composer most hotly could go a lifetime without catching a live performance of it.

Brahms's discerning surgeon friend, Bilroth, described it as full of the spirit of spring. Even Brahms himself, usually ruth-

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A word of advice to those of you who are thinking of changing to Silk Cut.

If you smoke it's more than likely that you're now thinking of changing to Silk Cut.

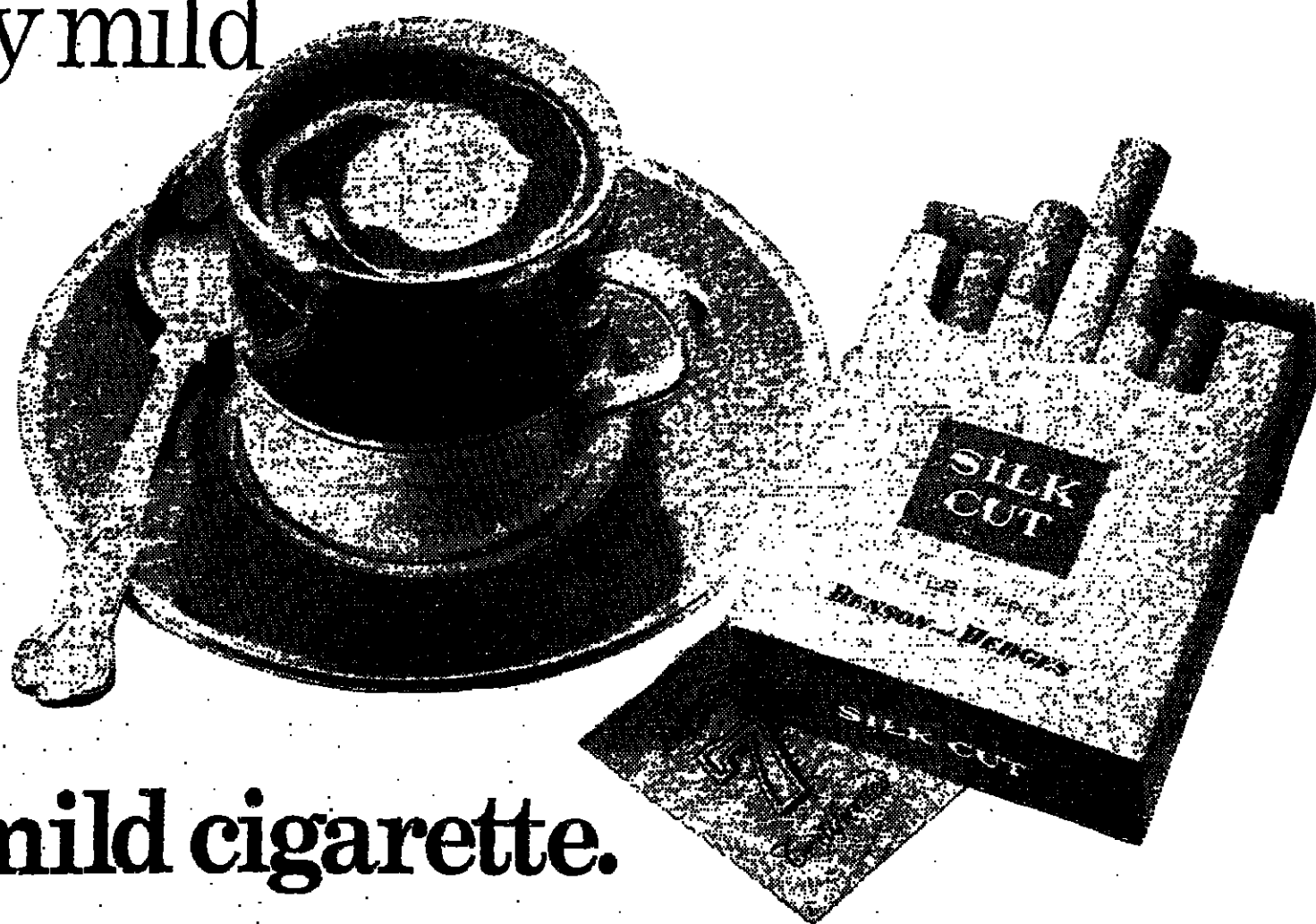
As Silk Cut tastes milder than the cigarette most of you will be used to smoking, we offer you this advice.

When you try Silk Cut, try them for two weeks.

In our experience that's how long it takes to appreciate the smooth, mild but satisfying taste of Silk Cut.

There is a range of Silk Cut brands: Silk Cut regular, Number 3, King Size, new Number 1 and, for an exceptionally mild smoke, Extra Mild.

So whichever Silk Cut brand you choose, try them for two weeks.



Silk Cut. The mild cigarette.

LOW TAR As defined by H.M. Government

EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

Afrikaans: the talking point of South Africa

Johannesburg, Aug. 14

Exactly 100 years ago eight men met in a house in Paarl, north of Cape Town, and formed an organization known as the Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners (Association of True Afrikaners). The organization had two main objectives: to fight for the use of the Afrikaans language at all levels of the South African society and for its recognition as a written language.

Although Afrikaans, which is basically an amalgam of a number of seventeenth-century Dutch dialects with a few German, Malay-Portuguese and Hottentot additions, was spoken in the Cape long before then, the Paarl meeting is recognized as the language's official birth.

Today the centenary of Afrikaans is being celebrated in South Africa with a public holiday and a ceremony at the Voortrekker monument outside Pretoria which included poetry readings and Afrikaans folk songs, sung by a choir of 1,000. Later in the year a 1650,000 Afrikaans language monument, already the subject of heated controversy, will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister.

The development of Afrikaans is being celebrated in South Africa with a public holiday and a ceremony at the Voortrekker monument outside Pretoria which included poetry readings and Afrikaans folk songs, sung by a choir of 1,000. Later in the year a 1650,000 Afrikaans language monument, already the subject of heated controversy, will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister.

The spread of the Afrikaans language was inextricably bound up with the growth of Afrikaner nationalism. In fact, the language made a slow start at all its expansion was, paradoxically, assisted by clumsy British administrators who had declared English as the only official language. The second Anglo-Boer war was the turning point at which it was still not until 1925 that Afrikaans finally became accepted as one of the country's two official languages.

Today it is the home language of over half the white population and most of the country's million Coloureds. Although bilingualism is rigorously pursued at all levels, Afrikaans is now the language that matters both in government and in public service. It is perhaps a reflection of the increasingly secondary role of English within the public life of the language press, for all its bark, has relatively little influence on government thinking.

However, the Afrikaans language is also subject to considerable stress and strain. A number of Afrikaans writers are up in arms against censorship which they believe threatens the

It is ironic that what grew up as a language of resistance should now be identified as the language of the oppressor

existence of Afrikaans as a virile, living language. Previously it was mainly English-language writers who suffered at the hands of South Africa's censors, but in the past year a number of Afrikaans books have been banned.

There is also evidence that both Coloureds and black Afrikaners are becoming increasingly alienated from Afrikaans. It is ironic that what grew up as a language of resistance against oppression (British) should now be identified as the language of the oppressor (white) by a large part of the population.

According to Professor Gerrit Beukes, who has made a study of the subject, the percentage of Coloureds who speak Afrikaans is declining sharply, while in the past 15 years English has made more rapid progress among Afrikaners. Mr. J. G. G. well, a Coloured lecturer in Afrikaans, adds: "That political injustice is committed in Afrikaans cannot be denied. And for as long as it continues, the brown man's relationship with Afrikaans will be impeded."

At the other end of the political spectrum a small right-wing fringe has objected to the fact that many Coloureds regard Afrikaans as their language. A group of them today held a separate celebration in Pretoria because Coloureds had been invited to attend the official ceremony. Significantly, however, this group has been publicly denounced by many Afrikaners.

As *The Rand Daily Mail*, which today publishes a rare editorial in Afrikaans to mark the centenary, comments: "Afrikaans will not die because of stresses such as these. They serve only to make it stronger."

Nicholas Ashford

Why German forces are crucial to the European balance of power

A priority goal, said Mr. Brezhnev at the recent Helsinki conference on European security, should be to find ways of reducing armed forces and armaments in Central Europe without reducing anyone's security. The reference was cautious enough, but in the diplomatic underworld where a nuance is as good as a wink to a blind man, it encouraged fresh optimism about that other long-running East-West serial, the Vienna talks on Mutual Balanced Force Reductions (MBFR). Western delegates who have just emerged from the last blank round of MBFR negotiations are now redoubling their efforts for the session which opens next month. It is no bad time to look at the prospects.

The initiative for MBFR negotiations arose from Nato, whose member countries, except France, insisted on them as a kind of quid pro quo for agreeing to Russian-sponsored talks on European Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE). They subsequently opened in October, 1973, just after the Middle East war, which had strained superpower relations.

The fact that they did have some indication of the underlying strength of détente policies and of how badly the Russians wanted the recent CSCE agreement. Twelve Western powers and seven from the Communist bloc became involved in trying to reduce the level of forces in Central Europe, and by the end of 1973 each side had submitted a comprehensive set of proposals. Since then, however, there has been little movement because the gap between the two positions is so wide that no compromise has been found to bridge it.

The issue is between symmetry and asymmetry. The Russians insist upon the fairness of symmetrical reductions, involving equal percentage cuts on each side, and forces as small as armies and all seven Western participants who have forces deployed in Central Europe. Nato argues, however, that because the Eastern block has 925,000 troops compared with the West's 777,000, and a formidable superiority in tanks, they should make the bigger cuts. Only land forces should be involved and the first phase should bring reductions only in the Russian and American armies, the Russians losing a tank army of 68,000 men—about the same size force that remained behind in Czechoslovakia after the 1968 invasion. Cuts in the other allies, like West Germany and Britain, would follow in the next stage.

There have been a number of other "fringe" proposals from both sides, some of which have had meretricious appeal. A Soviet proposal for an interim freeze on existing force levels last December could have proved embarrassing to the West because although Nato did not seriously agree to any such formalizing of prevailing disparities, their rejection could have been misunderstood in their various national parliaments. But the feared left-wing criticism did not materialize and Nato's stand at Vienna has remained remarkably united.

There have been slight shifts in the mood of some Nato countries. The Soviet Union has made it so obvious that the West German forces are seen as the bogey in Moscow—far more so than the Americans—that West German opinion has actually stiffened so much so that some observers believe West Germany might never have agreed to MBFR at all had the talks not already got under way.

The Russians who obviously dominate the pact's representation, have declined to supply any data about their own forces on the central front, preferring to let Nato make its own assumptions and then criticize these for being inaccurate—or at best refusing to confirm them.

There is however no lack of optimism expressed in the West over the chances of a phase-one agreement emerging in some form next year. It has long been recognized that the Warsaw Pact delegations at Vienna are in a tight rein from Moscow and that serious negotiations will start only when the Kremlin decides—probably for some extraneous political reason—that the rein should be slackened. It has also been commonly recognized that this initiative was more likely to come after the Helsinki summit.

What do the Russians want from MBFR? One aim is to put a limit on the size of the West German forces. Bundeswehr. Fear of German revanchism is still the one factor which unites all the Warsaw Pact powers. As the West is adamant that there should be no national drillings upon forces in Central Europe, the only way the Russians could place this lid on the Bundeswehr must be by moving towards the western concept of a common ceiling. In fact the proportion of West Germany's forces in Nato's strength in Central Europe is roughly comparable with the proportion of Russians on the other side.

But any West German troops who were involved in cuts



Czech and Soviet troops on exercise.

would have to be made to pay dearly for this.

What the West wants from MBFR is stability—which, it argues, is lacking at present because of the disparity in forces and particularly because of the number of Russian tanks. MBFR is not primarily concerned with arms control. A common ceiling of 700,000 should ensure that neither side has enough forces to launch a sudden concentrated attack upon the other. It is true, merely withdrawing its forces some way back and then quickly redeploying them if it wanted, helped by the relative ease of reinforcement over the Russian land mass. But this would at least give the West more warning time.

But this common ceiling as Dr. Henry Kissinger once put it is the "iron pole" of the West negotiating position. An MBFR agreement which failed to achieve it or something like it, would not be worth the paper it is written on. The feeling is that there might at least be some movement towards the Western position. The Russians in general and Mr. Brezhnev in particular value détente and their love-hate relationship with the United States. It can even be argued that they do not want the Americans to leave Europe because this might encourage the emergence of a tighter European defence community, dominated from Bonn. They might be prepared to move towards the western concept of parity for this reason—particularly if it makes certain concessions to the Soviet point of view by, for instance, agreeing to reductions in air forces as well as armies.

Nato for its part would prefer to scrap MBFR altogether rather than become committed to some series of concessions which does nothing to promote stability. As one observer put it this week: "We are on a train waiting to move somewhere but we do not yet know where. If it starts to move in the wrong direction we might have to jump off because we would not be further away than ever from where we want to go." This year, next year, some time or even perhaps never, Mr. Brezhnev might blow the whistle.

Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The twin pressures choking cities in Brazil

Colonel Jorge Teixeira became mayor of Manaus in April and wasted no time in making his mark. Within days of taking office he decided that the red light area around the cathedral was an eyesore and had to go. Before his critics could muster their forces, Col. Teixeira, founder of the Brazilian army's jungle training school, announced by decree that the red light area belonged to him—and then knocked it down.

Unfortunately, not all Brazil's urban problems can be so directly solved. Eleven years of uninterrupted economic growth and the movement of population from the countryside to the cities have created what the Brazilian Government calls "serious problems of congestion, overpopulation and pollution to the detriment of the quality of life and social equilibrium."

In 1940 only 31 per cent of the population lived in the cities; today almost 60 per cent do. By 1980, the Government calculates, two-thirds of the population will be living in cities. Brazil's urban problems are most acute in Sao Paulo, the largest city, where immigrants from rural areas are still arriving at the rate of 350,000 a year. The attractions of Sao Paulo are obvious enough for businessmen—the Japanese and the Swedes have all made large investments in Sao Paulo than anywhere else outside their home markets. But between them, immigration and industrialization are putting an enormous strain on the city's resources.

The mayor, Sr. Olavo Setubal, admits: "Sao Paulo may not be the world's fastest growing city, but without argument it has become the city with the fastest growing urban problems." At the end of June, Sao Paulo broke all previous records when the local air pollution index rose to a figure of 54.6 (the recommended upper limit is 15). Even on its better days, Sao Paulo air is difficult to breathe and everybody who lives there has a smoker's cough—whether he smokes or not. The roads are congested day and night, and it normally takes between one and two hours to commute from the suburbs to the centre of the city. Housing and other essential services lag far behind demand.

Sao Paulo, in fact, is a concrete jungle with no room for the animals. Each inhabitant

averages only 30 square metres of living space, less than the United Nations minimum. But such a small area of land that Sr. Setubal calculated that he would spend his entire budget next five years to do this recommendation. This would not take in any further increase in city's population.

One reason for the problem of Sao Paulo, to Sr. Setubal, "Take ten of the motor cars, department issues 2 every day for new cars, this has to be calculated to build 250 million cars. But in the past we were able to pay miles of thoroughfares."

About four years ago, began on the Sao Paulo ground rail system, was hoped, would encourage the car driver to use public transport. But it has taken longer than was expected and has been overtaken by been overtaken by in mobility. Sr. S. fears that it will not have a small impact on the problem, when the end of this year, the end of this year.

Sr. Setubal deplores new legislation to reduce pollution at proper planning of the existing level of pollution. The environment is well national development 1975 to 1979 devoted to urban planning with another major project to build a new government's state of the present state of the legislation. For the months a special hearing recommenced. The Brazilian government is drafting the law for the executive, expects the new ready for promulgation by the end.

But neither he else in Brazil expects to be transformed. "Our main concern is to revitalize, and this is a long struggle."

Jo

Ronald Butti is a

The underground organization that delivers your 37 gallons of water each day

On April 1, 1974, over 1,500 separate water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal, river management, land drainage and fisheries authorities and undertakings were merged into the new national water industry. Nine regional water authorities in England and the Welsh National Water Development Authority are now responsible within their respective regions for the management of all stages of what is called the hydrological cycle. Although the 31 statutory water companies retain their independence, they do so as agents of the new water authorities.

Sixty-five thousand people are employed in providing these essential services which this year will produce an annual revenue of about £850m with a capital investment programme of about £550m.

Although it is too soon to judge the success of such a major change as the national reorganization of this basic public utility, very many people in this country and overseas are eager to have at least an interim report on our progress. The reorganization of the water industry was largely overlooked at the time by the general public, whose attention had been directed towards the larger local government reorganization then taking place, when, that is, it was not concentrated upon other momentous national and international events. Notwithstanding the complexity of the processes of reorganization, water has continued to flow unabated to homes and out of our consumers' premises, domestic, agricultural

and industrial alike. Complete continuity of service was the first objective, and it has been achieved.

The water industry has been put on precisely the same footing as the other nationalized utilities, such as electricity and gas, in that its revenue must be sufficient to meet its costs. It is not run at a loss, and it does not receive subsidies, direct or otherwise. Prior to reorganization, of course, many of the industry's services benefited from the rate support grant, which is to say that the ratepayer was subsidized by the taxpayer. That is no longer the case for the services of the water industry: what you pay is all you pay.

Among the most persistent of popular myths is the idea that water is free. Nothing could be further from the truth, for the water industry is among the most capital intensive in the country. Rain may fall from the sky free of charge, but from that moment on it begins to cost money. It has to be collected, stored, purified, transported, and distributed as good clean water, without which life would be even more uncertain than it is. After use, at an average rate of 37 gallons per head per day, it has to be taken away through the sewerage system, cleaned up in sewage treatment works, and discharged as purified effluent, in most cases back into the rivers from which it was drawn originally.

The water industry is a vast transportation and treatment system which is barely apparent to the general public, for most of its plant and equipment is

either buried underground or sited away from main roads and town centres.

At all stages of this hydrological cycle (which technically speaking includes rain, evaporation and transpiration into the atmosphere and, via cloud formation and precipitation, back on to the land as further rainfall), heavy investment is needed in pipes, for mains and drains, expensive processing plants for water purification and sewage treatment, and heavy pumping equipment which is required all along the line.

The years of study, volumes of reports, such as those of the Water Resources Board and the Jeger Report Taken for Granted, which led up to the Water Act of 1973, all pointed to the logic of planning the water cycle under one general system of management. The decision to organize the management of these services within 10 autonomous authorities reflects another piece of logic, this time that of geography, based upon the main national river basin systems. Again, it was logical to create a National Water Council, the national forum for the discussion and resolution of common problems, and principal source of advice on water industry matters to the Government. The NWC is responsible also for industrial relations, training and superannuation arrangements for the whole industry.

The first fruits of reorganization have been seen in the operational management. Simple economies through the use over

a wide area of plant and equipment originally intended for more local use may not constitute a revolution in the industry, but they have given great encouragement to those responsible for them.

The amount of paper work has been reduced through the elimination of a multitude of inter-authority boundaries, and there has been speedier and more useful use of capital investment have been made by rationalizing the plans of adjacent areas which previously lay within the boundaries of separate authorities.

Britain has both the most advanced and the most complex water industry in the world, facts for which we should be thankful, but the corollary is the current heavy capital burden of some £2,400m, which must be serviced out of revenue year by year. Current high interest rates have had a serious impact on the level of the industry's charges to its customers, in some cases amounting to nearly half of the total revenue that has to be raised from its domestic, agricultural and industrial consumers. Labour costs have risen in the water industry as elsewhere, and coupled with the general inflation of other costs from which the industry cannot insulate itself, account for most of the remaining increases which have to be passed on to consumers.

The industry has a good past record of industrial relations, without which the assimilation of the labour forces of the constituent parts of the reorganized industry would not have gone so

well. The nature of the industry means that most people work in quite small groups scattered thinly across the country. They are dedicated to keeping the service going. Since reorganization their trades unions have joined with management in establishing flexible systems of working which already are providing new opportunities for economy in operation.

The majority of water supply undertakings and all the sewage treatment plants taken over by the new water authorities were owned previously by the old local authorities. It has proved something of a surprise to the reorganized industry to discover that the majority of water supply undertakings and all the sewage treatment plants taken over by the new water authorities were owned previously by the old local authorities. It has proved something of a surprise to the reorganized industry to discover that the majority of water supply undertakings and all the sewage treatment plants taken over by the new water authorities were owned previously by the old local authorities.

With interest rates so high, the question is often asked—why borrow money to embark upon new capital programmes at times like these? Alas, the choice is not as simple as that. Although costly major schemes for new water supply reservoirs or sewage treatment works attract most attention, the industry's capital investment programme mainly consists of a multitude of relatively small

works. For example, new housing or industrial development must be preceded by the laying of water mains and drains, which often require additions to purification and storage capacity of water and to the treatment works for sewage, and also of the trunk connections to both.

A decision whether or not to go ahead with this type of project does not lie with a particular water authority alone, for each has a statutory obligation to supply water services wherever they are needed. Housing and industrial development must produce homes and jobs, two social objectives carrying high public priorities to which the water industry gives full support.

Meanwhile, the balance of the industry's investment programme, mainly repairs and renewals of existing facilities, particularly mains and drains, has to be undertaken in almost any circumstances if the high standard of public health is to be preserved. For the provision of clean potable water and an effective system of drainage and sewage treatment, the water industry are the two pillars upon which the health and well-being of the population rest.

Prior to reorganization, the industry's relations with its consumers were maintained through the local authorities which, with the exception of the statutory water companies provided between them the full range of direct services to its consumers. Responsibility for sewerage—the drains—is still undertaken

in many cases by the new district councils acting as agents for the water authorities.

Some people claim that because the local authorities no longer control the water industry there is some loss of public accountability. The truth is that the reorganized structure of the industry has for the first time made it possible to identify the component parts of the industry, and relate national and regional resources to overall demand. This is obviously the first step towards proper public accountability, which was never possible in this sense in the fragmented structure of the past. Water, both clean and dirty, is too essential a service ever to be lost sight of again among the steadily increasing range of local authority responsibilities.

All the water authorities are beginning to develop contacts with their consumers, some by working through the local authorities represented on the water authorities themselves, and some through programmes embracing both widespread contact and the continuous publication of detailed information about their activities.

Public reaction earlier this year to the announced increase in the charges for water supply and the other services provided by the regional water authorities emphasized the need for closer contact with the industry's consumers. The recent judgment in the High Court on what has become known as the Daymond Case, in which payment of the general service charge in respect of properties not connected to the sewerage system were held to be unlaw-

ful, is to be the appeal to the House of Lords.

The matter is, it is pointed out, of practical importance, if needed, of the sense by consumers to public utility services.

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The author is chair National Water Co Times Newspaper

The Times Diary

How to sell British goods and honey

There was an opportunity to observe two contrasting styles of salesmanship at work yesterday. Peter Shore, the Secretary of State for Industry, was promoting his argument that people should buy British goods whenever possible by touring the Design Centre in the Haymarket and delivering a pep talk at a press conference afterwards. Barbara Cartland was promoting the sale of her paperback books on the health and her chosen venue, more improbably, was Woolworth's in Oxford Street. Robin Young reports:

Peter Shore took his walk round the Design Centre at a pace too rapid for the crowd of press photographers his visit had attracted. They complained that Shore would not stop and look at anything interesting. The minister gave many of them the slip by suddenly ducking behind a display cabinet to look at some gold jewelry, and then examined rather morosely a display of

British door- and letter-boxes.

He took only passing interest in an exhibit labelled "Olympian plug-in system", which sounds just what Britain needs but is in fact only a method of installing air-conditioning. "The colleges chose these. We didn't," said Sir Paul Reilly, director of the Design Council, apologetically when the party reached a section devoted to student designs. The photographers clamoured for the minister to examine a chest of drawers made like a green hippopotamus but Reilly refused to allow it. "It comes as a cocktail cabinet, too," murmured one of the officials walking behind.

Shore put on his spectacles to look more closely at a BSA air pistol and a hunting rifle. "Dear me," he said, and hurried on.

At the press conference the photographers trained a wide variety of Japanese, Swedish and German cameras on him, radio reporters recorded his words on Swiss and Dutch tape-

recorders, and people like me scribbled down lists of everything foreign they could see with French, Italian or Japanese pens.

Reilly presented Shore with a Union Jack tablecloth and a pair of socks in Union Jack design—souvenirs, he said, bought from the Design Centre's own shop. Fine patriotic stuff, and something to please the photographers at last, but the cash registers which rang up Sir Paul's purchases, I noticed, were made in Italy.

Unlike Shore, Barbara Cartland will ad smile and smile some more, but she was working under difficulties in a sweater Woolworth's without air-conditioning yesterday, and there were only two photographers on hand.

Wedged between a display of her books—with titles like *The Impetuous Duchess*, *A Duel of Hearts* and *The Mask of Love*—and a sales counter, she signed autographs effusively. But at about 10-minute intervals she asked her secretary for her handbag and carefully examined her face in a small mirror, adjusting her make-up as necessary before greeting the next customer.

Those of middle-age and over were asked: "Are you interested in health?" (a difficult question to say "No" to) and introduced to her secretary to hear about the Health and Happiness Club. "It enables me to keep in touch with some about all the wonderful new products which are always coming out," said Miss Cartland.

"Have you heard about Propolis? It is absolutely fantastic. It's unbelievable, and it is just our from Vienna, and it is the stuff the bees use to seal the hive. You really must get some."

For hot weather she recommended drinking cold vinegar, but all that Woolworth's could provide was bitter lemon. Perspiration soaked through Miss Cartland's pink silk suit, but she kept at her task with the unremitting energy of a committed vitamin consumer.

"I'll keep going till my face falls off," she said. "I don't feel hot really. I don't get a chance to come to Woolworth's often, you know. I'm just finishing my twelfth book this year so I do not go shopping very good. The St Albans manager used to let me have costume jewelry free to give to my old ladies at Christmas when I was a county councillor—they all looked like fairies off

a Christmas tree. And all the chandeliers in my grand flat in London, overlooking the Thames, they are all from Woolworth's. So much more impressive than the real thing."

Good news

What its citizens have done to deserve such an honour is not entirely clear, but the hitherto obscure town of Glossop in Derbyshire is to become the first local society in the world. Within a very short time the entire country will be suffused with radiant happiness from this new Mecca, washing away for ever unofficial strikes and Japanese car imports.

This is clearly very good news. All that is required is that 5 per cent of the population of Glossop learn the art of transcendental meditation, which they only four days and costs £25 or so.

Representatives of the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi gave out the glad tidings at a press conference in London yesterday, while in the lucky town itself the last mayor, George Chatterton, planted an oak tree and cut an enlightenment cake. The bearded guru himself was unable to attend, being unavoidably detained at an opulent retreat in France, but sent a videotape of himself.



This will have to go, for a start...

"All negativity will subside in Glossop, and positivity will dominate. Crimes will be less, sicknesses will be less, prisons will be empty," declared the Maharishi. "This will revitalize industry, which depends on the creativity of the individual, and all problems of industry will vanish. I invite Glossop to keep on as a shining lighthouse."

Stephen Giles, a former schoolteacher who now co-ordinates the Maharishi's campaign in Britain, explained that ten teachers would invade Glossop and, through public meetings, factory visits, and personal contact, would attempt to enlighten 1,000 Glossopians. Already in the town 200 people practise the art.



This will have to go, for a start...

The promoters of the Glossop experiment intend to ask the local High Peak Council to pay for the scheme, on the grounds that it cuts down road accidents and eases the burden on hospitals. People who meditate rarely fall ill or crash their cars, it is said.

Falsetto

The annual opera recording at Glyndebourne on Wednesday evening turned out to be a not so cost-free affair. All went well until Act 2 when camera five seized up. A technician arrived, borrowed a penny from the cameraman, opened doors, changed parts, pulled wires, and banged the thing.

The ensemble but Thomas Allen hat so the curtains. When they re-open (Anon Austin) his mousie, pul of his mouth. T closed. Back with this time Helena Duetist, had lost "May I see score, at

At the end the asked by the stage set dressed, please if recording I winner they applauding in. They applauded applauded again, o will look gorgeous whenever that is. effort is being show Sunday week.

We inadvertently d well-respected n domestic squabble a Union yesterday Macmillan, Roy J Robin Day, as th trustees of the Oxf and Debating Trust, involved in next The ing to a new and president really is. will be dealt with by standing committee less august.



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TRANSATLANTIC GRAIN DRAIN

American grain sales to the Soviet Union have become a complex and sensitive issue with implications proliferating in all directions. President Ford has to balance the interests of farmers and consumers. At the same time he must keep an eye on his political relations with the Soviet Union and cover himself at home against accusations that he is being either too hard or too soft towards communists. Developing countries have vital interests at stake. In the Soviet Union, grain is the one commodity which seems chronically short. It is now assumed that the Soviet Union is again shopping for very large quantities of grain, probably comparable with those bought in 1972. Sales of about 10,000 tonnes have already been negotiated but that may be about a third of what the Americans have therefore decided further sales until it more information on both the Soviet and the American sides.

Meanwhile it is reassuring to know that it will not repeat mistakes of 1972, when the Soviets were able to buy at

subsidized prices in a series of secret deals which caused a sharp rise in world prices and contributed substantially to inflation. Instead of paying \$1.62 a bushel for wheat they will now be paying at least \$4. They have also undertaken to keep the Administration informed, and the Administration is making more effort to keep itself informed.

The political and economic damage done by the "great grain robbery" of 1972 should therefore be avoided. But basic problems remain. If huge fluctuations in Soviet demand continue to lurch in and out of the American economy they will put a severe strain on the Administration's agricultural policy, which is deeply committed to the free market. If they also affect consumers, even to a lesser extent than in 1972, they will create even wider political problems. Already dockers have been threatening to "black" grain shipments to the Soviet Union unless they are satisfied that they will not affect food prices, and the issue could help hard-line supporters of Senator Jackson, a contender for the presidential nomination next year.

Obviously the Russians are under no obligation to solve the American President's problems for him. Nevertheless, if they envisage becoming one of the principal regular customers of the United States and wish to avoid doing their political relations too much damage they

will have to make some contribution. Mr Butz, the American Secretary of Agriculture, has suggested that they should build up reserves to even out demand. They also need to improve their forecasting, though variable weather makes this difficult in any country.

Probably the main difficulty is to forecast how long it will take them to improve the general performance of their agriculture. All their administrative plans, reforms and investments seem to trickle away into the Russian soil, victims of the peasant mentality, the ineptness of bureaucrats, and the fundamental problem of subjecting the personal and unpredictable world of agriculture to a socialist planning system designed for industry—and not all that successful even there. Isolated experiments in unleashing local initiative and the profit motive have been dramatically successful in agricultural terms but disastrous politically. There lies the conflict.

The Soviet Union will not be helped by the prospect of a substantial trade deficit this year after a large surplus last year, earned mainly by rising commodity prices. Big grain imports will worsen the deficit. Plans to continue heavy investment in western capital goods may therefore be reexamined, which could affect industrial development. President Ford may have his problems but he would probably not wish to exchange them for those of Mr Brezhnev.

JURIES ON INDICTMENT

On the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police repeatedly accuses his misgivings about operation of the jury system. Robert Mark did so again yesterday at Bramhill. Police agree—the general public told that notice. The jury is of our oldest legal institutions; it has an honoured place in our tradition; but like all institutions it should not be used from objective scrutiny. There are really two essentially different kinds of criticism. The one on which Sir Robert dwelt yesterday, is that juries sometimes operate under a pressure ear which makes it all too easy that they deliver false verdicts. There is no reason to question Robert's judgment that this happens in some cases, though one would assume in the absence of any evidence to the contrary—and the Commissioner's only his own authority for assertion—that the cases are infrequently. Not even in these it is a persuasive argument against the jury system itself. As Robert makes plain, it is not juries who are liable to be misled. So are prosecution witnesses and their relatives. One hardly hope, therefore, to end with all those vulnerable threats and preserve any of full trial. A different question must be found to the dem of intimidation. This is a matter of police action, though one is fully aware that it is easier to advance

this principle than to make it effective in practice.

The second general criticism of the jury system is that too many juries contain people who, to put it bluntly, do not possess the mental equipment for the task. They may be illiterate; they may lack certain elementary knowledge which any court would take for granted in a jury; or they may simply lack the capacity to remember what they have heard and to draw reasonable conclusions from it. There is sufficient anecdotal evidence of this nature to arouse concern, but anecdotal evidence is not enough. We must await the findings of objective research into how the system operates in practice rather than in theory, to which Sir Robert rightly attaches so much importance.

But even in advance of these findings certain broad principles can be laid down. The first is that the evidence would have to be very alarming indeed before one contemplated scrapping the system altogether. Sir Robert displays no love of lawyers and he would presumably be numbered among those of us who would be most reluctant to hand over the entire operation of the legal system to a professional cadre. Amidst all the criticism of juries one should never forget that they embody the principle that the general public should be involved in the administration of justice.

Further, no research findings could justify a complaints system for juries along the lines of what

is to be introduced for the police. Sir Robert sometimes reveals a penchant for improbable trade-offs. To imply that what is good enough for the police should be good enough for juries is to ignore the different circumstances. What complaint could an aggrieved person lodge? If a juror has been nobbled that is a criminal offence. If there has been an error in law an appeal lies to a higher court. If the jury's conclusion was reached on frivolous or irrelevant grounds, who is to tell? A complaints system would require the taping of the deliberations of every jury and then a succession of invidious judgments by some complaints commission as to whether the jury in question had shown a sufficient degree of high seriousness.

The natural place to look for improvements, if any are to be made, would be in the composition of juries. It would be quite unrealistic to suggest a return to the property qualification. Even if that were desirable—and it was an arbitrary distinction that militated against the fair representation of women—it would be quite out of keeping with the spirit of the times. Some kind of educational qualification or literacy test might be more acceptable if it were practicable. Perhaps there might be stricter limits on the right of the defence to appeal against jurymen. But there must be no tampering with the system unless changes are shown to be necessary after objective scrutiny.

ANOTHER DOWNWARD REVISION

The latest population paper on Wednesday by the Office of Population Censuses Surveys points to the possibility of a tiny reduction in the rate of England and Wales since mid-1974 and mid-1975. That is confirmed—and it ends on how the migration rate has turned out—it will be the year in time of peace since mid-1974 began to be kept in 1937 the population has fallen. It has come a long way, very since the "people are dying" school of thought had Government under heavy pressure to institute a population policy—which was meant to reduce the birth rate in a downward direction.

Vermin, assisted by a bleak report from the Think Tank, resisted the pressure. They have been tempted to yield, but can seldom abstain from legislation, especially if it is to try. But they were up to solid objections. The idea for fixing an "optimum"

or "target" population do not lie to hand. Projections of population into the future when converted into predictions—which statisticians deplore but others are obliged to do—have proved notoriously unreliable during the past thirty years. Above all, even if the target can be set and the trend relied upon, what is the government supposed to do about it? ("A policeman under every bed?" as Mr. Maundling is supposed to have murmured when he was Home Secretary.)

Those whose scepticism made them proof against panic when the "population explosion" was assailing the ear still need that armour. They may soon be invited to contemplate the depressing psychological and economic consequences of a shrinking population. In fact an excess of births over deaths last year still provided for a small natural increase in the population. The reduction—if it is shown to have come about—is to be accounted for by net outward migration. The birth rate and fertility rate may fall further in the next year or two bringing a decrease in the

population irrespective of migration. But the birth rate can be expected to pick up again when larger age groups of women reach child bearing age. The age structure of the population is such that whatever happens to the birth rate within the limits of probability, and barring emigration on a massive scale, the population of the country will continue to grow for the next thirty years or so. If in response to economic or cosmic pessimism the birth rate remains exceptionally low the age balance in the still enlarging population could become uncomfortably skewed.

These are questions for administrators to guess the answers to. As for that larger part of the nation which is not engaged in updating regional economic plans or propelling ten-year rolling programmes of hospital building, they are entitled to take their own decisions impinging on future numbers without fussing themselves about the aggregated decisions of their fellow countrymen, which they can neither predict nor regulate.

admirably presented cataloguing details—a form of centralizing cataloguing. This allows libraries throughout the country and provides an extensive, if not complete, list of new British publications.

Two difficulties exist: (1) cataloguing details required in libraries using BNB appear several weeks after publication day; (2) many of the more interesting publications (eg. ninety per cent of independent producers' market surveys) fail to appear in BNB—possibly because the publishers who may charge several thousands of pounds per copy have no desire to hand over a free copy for public consultation.

I hope that when the Whitford Committee reports on copyright they will make recommendations which will do justice to the publishers and the public. My experience of United States copyright laws—for I have worked in one of the largest American libraries—

suggests to me that they have the answer. A manuscript enjoys copyright, but a published work requires statutory copyright and this means registering or depositing the work (if the publisher is wise, several weeks before publication day) at the US Copyright Office in Washington.

I can see no objection to operating this system in the United Kingdom with the proviso that a publisher may demand that the deposited copy be withheld from public consultation for a specified period. This would let everyone know of the existence of the publication, protect the publisher and improve British library services to the majority of their users, who, after all, are the users of their bibliographical services.

Yours faithfully,
A. EDWIN D. FLEMING,
55 Kilmore Avenue,
Mossley Hill,
Liverpool.
August 12.

Problem of youth unemployment

From Mr J. Michael Butterfield
Sir, It would be a very great pity if the controversy surrounding the compulsory aspect of the otherwise imaginative job-creation proposals of Anthony Steen, MP, and Leon Brittan, MP (August 9), diverted attention from the immensity of the problem of youth unemployment and the very real personal tragedy facing so many young people at the present time.

As the body which initiated the Community Industry scheme, we welcome the expansion announced by Mr Foot earlier this month which would increase the number of young people employed from 2,000 to 3,000. We also welcome the distinction drawn by Mr Steen and Mr Brittan between the objectives of Community Industry and their own proposals. Community Industry employs young people who leave school at 16, and it is possible to find them without qualifications and who find problems in the transition from school to work. It is not a regular mechanism for high youth unemployment.

There is no doubt of the need for imaginative thought and action to solve the problem. The Times with this in mind we are planning to bring together people who have ideas on the subject on September 24. We are anxious to avoid any overlap and would welcome the ideas and the collaboration of people of whatever party or creed in devising practical policies.

May we use your columns to ask people to write to us for further information?
Yours faithfully,
J. M. BUTTERFIELD,
Chief Executive,
National Association of Youth Clubs,
PO Box 1, Blackburn House,
Bond Gate,
Nuneaton,
Warwickshire.
August 14.

Traffic forecasts

From Mrs E. C. Hill
Sir, Michael Bailey reports (August 8) that an "authoritative study carried out privately for The Times" indicates that a lower rate of growth in traffic than that officially forecast is likely. Without sight of the study, it is difficult to comment in detail but, given the assumptions upon which the study was apparently based, the conclusions are probably not far out.

Mr Mulley, then Minister for Transport, did indeed announce in February that road proposals would be tested against a set of traffic forecasts based on pessimistic assumptions. But it is significant that the forecasts were prepared by the Department of the Environment, not the Transport and Road Research Laboratory and that the DOE's "low" forecast for car numbers were only slightly below the TRRL's "middle" forecast. The reason is an interesting one in the perspective of the Department were not prepared to accept the Laboratory's assumption of a 2 per cent annual growth rate in Gross Domestic Product as acceptable over a 25-year period and reworked the figures on a 21 per cent rate.

This is not a purely academic question. In transport, as in other fields of policy, there must be some agreed basis on which planning can proceed with some degree of certainty. And the factor influencing the extent to which goods traffic will grow and people will own and use cars, is the performance of the economy as a whole.

Indeed, it will perhaps be surprising to some that the forecast growth of as much as a quarter in the vehicle population by the year 2000, even with no further growth at all in the economy. What Government, of any party, is going to be prepared to see no improvement in living standards for a whole generation? Over the past 20 years the annual growth rate in any 5-year period has never fallen below about 2 per cent and the average has been nearer 3 per cent. It is true that we are in a no-growth recession and we are likely to stay that way for some years, but this will serve only to delay the realization of the levels forecast, not to change them. Forecasts of this sort represent a trend, and are not intended to predict short-term fluctuations around that trend.

What this new study does do is to reinforce the conclusion that, even on the most pessimistic assumptions about growth and costs, vehicle numbers and traffic flows will continue to rise and that, if the return to something like "normal" conditions in the longer term, the DOE/TRRL forecasts are not at all a bad basis on which to plan.

Yours sincerely,
EILEEN HILL,
Economist, British Road Federation,
26 Manchester Square, W.1.
August 12.

Birds and fishing lines

From Mr Colin Osman
Sir, Your Diarist mentions the danger to swans, etc. from fish hooks (August 12). From our experience the danger from weather balloons is even greater. During hot weather balloons make an unauthorised stop on river banks and their feet become entangled with odd lengths of line. Usually they continue home and the fancier can remove the line before any permanent damage is done.

But if the bird is entangled by the line and does not reach home quickly, the line tightens and particularly in the case of swans, may cause the foot to atrophy. In the case of wild pigeons where instant treatment is not available a great many birds must be lost. I am sure if anglers realized the dangers they would take their broken lengths of line with them.

Yours sincerely,
COLIN OSMAN, Editor,
The Racing Pigeon,
19 Doughty Street, WC1.
August 14.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A parliament for Wales

From Mr Gwynfor Evans, Plaid Cymru MP for Carmarthen

Sir, Mr Edward Short's announcement in Parliament that the Welsh Assembly would be housed, temporarily one supposes, in the Temple of Peace in the Cardiff civic centre, coincided with his reaffirmation of the Government's intention to establish a legislature in Edinburgh but never an executive assembly in Cardiff. The news means that when the Scottish Parliament is set up, it will be to grips with the problems that have accumulated under London's long years of misrule, a feeble Welsh Assembly will be able to do little more than indulge in hot air, unable to make any major policy decisions.

The Government insists that it has not actually made its mind up on its constitutional policy for Scotland and Wales. Hitherto its attitude has been based on its assessment of the strength of political nationalism in the two countries. When it thought that its national parties were not strong enough to carry out its policy, it has been content to let the national parties do as they please. But it has since been convinced that Scottish and Welsh nationalism are here to stay and to grow. Since then its concern has been to yield as little as possible to the two nations in the light of the strength of their nationalist movements.

Is it too late to hope that it will abandon this cynical approach and consider the national parties as partners in the future? I make this appeal not because the Government's present attitude is bad for Plaid Cymru but because it is bad for Wales. It is doing Plaid Cymru a great deal of good. For instance, of the nine local by-elections which have been fought during the last three months in the industrial valleys of East Glamorgan and Gwent, Plaid Cymru has won six, each in a district where it has never previously come near to success.

Squatters and the law

From Mr Gordon W. Quance
Sir, On August 6 you published a letter from the Solicitor to the Metropolitan Police. In the last paragraph of that letter, the writer stated: "It is made quite clear to the police that the authorities indicate that a person in actual possession of property but temporarily away may re-enter his property forcibly to eject a trespasser, but a landlord or the owner of empty property should have recourse to the courts of law."

In a report contained in The Times of August 8, Mr Howard Levenson of the National Council for Civil Liberties is quoted as saying that a very dangerous situation was created if the police had to decide, on the spot, whether a lawful occupier was or was not a trespasser. In the report, the premises were really furnished, and whether they were normally in residential use.

I suggest that the distinction drawn by Mr Lane, the Solicitor to the Metropolitan Police, does not exist in law, and that as a result the practical difficulty referred to by Mr Levenson need not arise. In McPhail v Persons Unknown, which was decided by the Court of Appeal in May, 1973, Lord Denning, M.R., made it quite clear that the owner is not obliged to go to the courts to obtain possession of his property. The court did not draw any distinction between owner and occupier of the one hand, and owners of empty property on the other hand. Indeed, such a distinction would be untenable, since trespass is an offence against possession, and an owner of empty property has the legal possession of that property. Just as much as an owner occupier, who is the sort of person whom Mr Lane presumably has in mind when he refers to a person being "in actual possession"—see for example Wura-Ofe v Danquah [1961] 3 All E.R. 596.

A policy for children

From Mr Mia Kellmer Pringle
Sir, While supporting the reappraisal of youth policies advocated by John Ewen and others (July 30), I would urge that any such review should be wider than that proposed.

Children do not suddenly run away from home or become vandals. There are always some early warning signals. The often these are heeded too late when the difficulties are long-standing, severe and multiple. To concentrate on alienated adolescence is to continue in the present cheese-paring, uncoordinated way of responding to crises, doing too little too late.

Our investment in the young is unbalanced, unwise and unjustifiably costly in the long run. We scrimp on the young child who is educationally backward or emotionally disturbed; we are profuse on students and, because we have no choice by then, on the emotionally damaged and seriously delinquent young person.

Take the decision to set up more secure units for very difficult youngsters—when the effectiveness of closed institutions is being questioned even for adults. In addition, the scarcity of high-quality, trained residential staff and the shortage of psychological personnel make the prospect of success very doubtful. The cost per place is extremely high, about £10,000 p.a. Such money could purchase greatly improved housing conditions as well as long-term social service support for several families at risk.

Before setting up a government inter-departmental office for youth,

Telling left from right

From Mr D. E. Fry
Sir, Your Science Report of Wednesday, August 6, deals with the lateralization of certain functions in the right and left halves of the brain. This is a complex subject and it would be well, therefore, to correct one error which the report contains. The fact is that in right-handed people it is now reasonably well established that verbal skills are predominantly a function of the left-hand side of the brain while spatial skills are controlled chiefly by the right.

There are many degrees of left-handedness and as a consequence left-handed people form a much less

homogeneous class than the right-handed. Reliable experimental evidence suggests that left-handers may belong to one of at least three groups: those in whom verbal skills are predominantly a function of the right half of the brain, those who have "mixed dominance" and in whom speech and language are represented in both sides of the brain, and those who, like right-handers, control speech and language functions with the left hemisphere.

Yours truly,
D. E. FRY,
Department of Phonetics and Linguistics,
University College London,
Gower Street, W.C.1.

In the quickly changing political climate in Wales, where growing unemployment, recalls to the folk memory the terrible years of the twenties and thirties when London Government was such a catastrophe, its rather frivolous attitude is having a boomerang effect. We are confident that within a decade Plaid Cymru will be the biggest party in Wales.

The nationalists are far from standing alone in their demand for the establishment of a Parliament at the same time as for Scotland. In particular, the trade unions in conference have demanded by an overwhelming majority a Parliament with legislative powers in the fields of industry and the economy. In view of this it is hard to understand how Mr Short could say that Wales is content with a toothless executive assembly.

In fact it is an open secret that the Welsh Council Committee were persuaded to support an executive assembly rather than the legislature which the Gwynedd Council urged on it purely by the tactical argument that the Government would more easily yield the less effective body. There was no objection in principle to a legislature. If the decision to give Scotland a legislature had then been made there is little doubt that the Welsh counties would have insisted on parity for Wales.

The Welsh people are in no mood to allow London to continue to play around with their national future. The conviction has spread that the people of Wales could not possibly make the awful mess that London Government has made of looking after its affairs. Welsh consent to the continuation of London rule is rapidly being eroded.

Yours faithfully,
GWYNFOR EVANS,
House of Commons.
August 7.

Service by direct grant schools

From Mr H. G. Edwards

Sir, In the first paragraph of his letter (August 6) on direct grant schools, Mr Paul Sanderson makes a sweeping generalization, denying that we "provide an essential service for the bright children of the poor and needy". His view is not substantiated by the facts, as far as this school is concerned. A research worker with no axe to grind spent two months in 1970, working on the relationship between the parental occupations of the boys in my school for the 15 year period 1954 to 1969 and the General Register of Occupations, and the findings, the accuracy of which cannot be doubted, were as follows:

Class	Occupations	This School
Class I (Professional)	7%	11%
Class II (Intermediate)	15%	24%
Class III (Skilled)	46%	53%
Class IV (Partly skilled)	25%	7%
Class V (Unskilled)	7%	5%
	100%	100%

Of course the National Register has its drawbacks. Bus drivers are in class III but his conductors are in class IV. Children are not normally snobs but adults are, as Stephen describes himself as a company director instead of a rag and bone man. To that extent the figures in the right-hand column tend to overstate the case. But in any event, a school where 65 per cent of the places are taken by the bus driver's clerk group downwards can hardly be described as the preserve of the middle classes.

Our boarding wing is a most important part of the school. Of the 110 boys, 50 are entirely free, and the breakdown for them is as follows:

Class I	6%
Class II	26%
Class III	50%
Class IV	10%
Class V	8%
	100%

At any given time, at least three of my day boys from poor homes have been taken in to board when home circumstances warranted such a move. In some cases we have virtually saved a boy by this degree of pastoral care. Through no fault of their own, most state schools are quite unable to begin on this front. As a result, neither the accommodation nor the trained staff to cope with the difficulties. Yet in us, it comes under the definition of "an essential service for the bright children of the poor and needy". We also take special care of the families.

The withdrawal of the direct grant will deny these valuable services to those who cannot pay fees, and put them at the disposal of those who can. It is a denial of the basic intent of socialism.

Yours faithfully,
H. G. EDWARDS, Headmaster,
Queen Elizabeth's Hospital,
Bristol.

Diseased trees

From Mr D. R. Johnston
Sir, May I, once again, clarify some uncertainties in the minds of your correspondents?

The virulent strain of Dutch elm disease had not been identified anywhere in the world when the infected logs were imported from the United States in the 1960s. The first people to identify the virulent strain were Forestry Commission pathologists in 1971.

Mr Newton is correct in saying that until 1973 it was illegal to import spruce logs with the bark on from these countries provided they were certified to have been examined and found free from the beetles *Ips typographus* and *Dendroctonus micans*.

Soon after the regulations were modified a certified consignment of spruce logs from Germany was found to be infected with *Ips typographus* and with the willing co-operation of the importer the logs were at once debarked and the bark burned. As a result of this experience and after consultation with trade and Forestry Commission interests the United Kingdom is proposing to introduce a ban on the import of spruce logs, with the bark attached, from the temperate and sub-arctic parts of Europe. There is reason to believe that this measure will be approved by the Common Market authorities for consideration at ministerial level.

Meanwhile the Forestry Commission of all consignments requiring a phytosanitary certificate and these are inspected at the docks by Forestry Commission inspectors.

Yours faithfully,
D. R. JOHNSTON,
Director, Research & Development,
Forestry Commission,
Alice Holt Lodge,
Farnham, Surrey.

Nocturnal bells

From Mr Mervyn Bryn-Jones
Sir, Having endured the same inconvenience as Messrs Napper and Gasson, I eventually discovered that local authorities have the powers to deal with this nuisance under the Noise Abatement Act 1960. The technique is to find the department concerned, and the home telephone number of the duty officer. He must then be contacted when the alarm rings so that he can witness the offence. Passing the inconvenience of nocturnal disturbance on to someone who has the power to do something about it, in my experience, achieved satisfactory results.

Yours faithfully,
MERVYN BRYN-JONES,
35 Lebanon Park,
Tickenham,
Middlesex.

Telford

for details of
relocation
opportunities
Call Bob Tilmouth
at 0952 613131

UK trade deficit widened to £294m by bill for ships and N Sea oil equipment

Tim Congdon
Exceptionally high imports of the Sea oil equipment and as contributed to a deterioration in the United Kingdom's trade position last month. The deficit widened to £294m in June, according to figures released yesterday by the Central Statistical Office of the Department of Trade.

The £294m deficit was composed of a deficit of £234m in the oil and a deficit of £60m in non-oil goods. The deficit in oil was £120m on invoices, current account deficit for the year is placed at £174m, the figure since February.

The size of the deficit distorted the financial market, leading prices were marked up by up to half a point at the announcement.

But sterling remained infinitesimal, after a dipping bid, regained its earlier level and held steady for the remainder of the session. It ended at \$2.085, up 10 points the day.

The larger gap between imports and exports was mainly attributable to a jump in the value of oil imports of £120m which outweighed a rise in exports of £6m. The higher import bill, however, was largely

counted for by one or two special items. The largest was the Beryl "A" oil platform with a value of £100m was purchased from the month, and deliveries abroad to United Kingdom customers of new ships constructed in foreign shipyards at unusually high. Without these items the trade deficit

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UK TRADE

The following are the July trade figures, seasonally adjusted and constructed on a balance of payments basis with allowance for known recording errors, as released by the Department of Trade:

	Exports (£m)	Imports (£m)	Visible balance
1973	11,512	13,813	-2,301
1974	15,589	20,848	-5,259
1975 Q1	2,685	3,039	-354
Q2	2,798	3,189	-401
Q3	2,991	3,580	-589
Q4	3,048	4,025	-977
1974 Q1	3,500	4,779	-1,279
Q2	3,900	5,216	-1,316
Q3	4,181	5,371	-1,210
Q4	4,029	5,482	-1,454
1975 Q1	4,571	5,287	-716
Q2	4,382	4,832	-450
1975	1,451	1,765	-314
February	1,511	1,866	-355
March	1,382	1,644	-262
April	1,582	1,590	-8
May	1,438	1,598	-160
June	1,546	1,840	-294

Provisional estimates

would have shown little change on the month.

Moreover, the value of the pound was somewhat lower in July than in June, thus raising the price of imports to British customers. This is reflected in the terms of trade which showed the smallest improvement for three months.

Although world commodity prices have been falling recently, British manufacturers and consumers have therefore benefited to only a limited extent

because the value of the pound has been falling too. The July figures do not mean that the better trend in the balance of trade has come to an end. Indeed, the small rises in both the value and volume of exports are an encouraging sign because they suggest that sales abroad by British companies are proving fairly resistant to the world-wide weakness of demand.

Other countries, including West Germany and Japan, have suffered significantly larger falls in exports this year. Moreover, the worsening deficit in July should be seen against the background of a sustained improvement during the first half of the year. The strength of the recovery took most observers by surprise and completely falsified forecasts that the trade deficit this year would be between £3,000m and £4,000m.

It has occurred in conjunction with a large deficit in the Government's finances, contradicting the doctrine of the "new Cambridge school" that the overseas payments deficit would be the public sector financial deficit are related.

The Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development has predicted that the United Kingdom's trade position will be worse in the second half of 1975 than in the first. Much will depend on the severity of the recession in this country which will determine the behaviour of imports and on the timing of the upturn in other countries which will affect the demand for United Kingdom exports.

US data provide strongest signs of recovery

From Frank Vogel
Washington, Aug 14

Probably the strongest evidence to date that the United States economy has turned the corner on recession and is gradually recovering is reflected in new data on the trends of business inventories.

These show that the decline in the manufacturing level is sharply below the record figures of earlier months. Also, inventories at the retail and wholesale levels are rising for the first time since January.

The big declines in gross national product in the first and second quarters of this year largely resulted from a fall in the level of business stocks.

The overall decline in manufacturing and trade inventories in June, according to today's figures, was \$640m, compared with a drop of \$2,500m in May.

There is growing evidence that new sales are significantly outstripping the rate of inventory declines, which the Administration economists believe must lead to restocking of goods at all business levels in the near future and thus boost industrial production.

Today's figures strengthen this view by showing that the volume of unfilled orders continues to fall with a decline in June alone of \$149m.

Mr James Pate, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, said the figures made it clear that the bulk of the inventory liquidation by business had already taken place. Coupled with figures of new sales, they suggested that the annual rate of real GNP development in the present quarter could be 6 to 8 per cent.

Meanwhile, total business sales rose by 1.5 per cent in June, with a \$1,011m gain in the manufacturing level and gains of \$634m and \$744m at retailing and wholesaling levels.

Companies appear determined to keep inventories at fairly low levels to reduce financing costs and manufacturers appear hesitant to embark on new capital spending.

These trends are reflected in new Fed figures today, which show that commercial and industrial loans granted by

banks in the week to August 6 fell by \$291m, bringing the total decline so far this year to \$11,326m.

A grave worry about sales trends concerns the development of prices. There was additional bad news on this front today with announcements by more steel manufacturers and by General Motors of scheduled price increases.

The car company said it intended to raise prices on its new models by an average of 4.4 per cent.

Swedish query over Volvo tax position

From Our Correspondent
Stockholm, Aug 14

Volvo, socialist Sweden's biggest industrial enterprise, paid no Swedish state taxes in 1971 on gross profits of 410.9m kronor (about £13m), it was learnt today.

A company spokesman confirmed a report in the Stockholm newspaper *Aftonbladet* which stated that the company, with 35,000 employees in Sweden, paid no state corporate taxes.

Mr Gunnar Sträng, the Finance Minister, was quoted as saying he was very surprised to learn this. He said he would look into the matter.

Mr Sträng or senior Finance Ministry officials could not be contacted today for comment.

Sweden, which has been ruled for 44 years by the Social Democratic Party, has the highest progressive personal income tax rates in Europe, but more lenient taxation policies towards companies.

In 1974 AB Volvo had gross profits of 410.9m kronor on sales of 6,672.9m kronor. Net profits, after write-offs, depreciation and capital investments, were 120.3m kronor. The company paid an annual dividend of 6 kronor per share.

It also paid 1m kronor in local taxes, but no national taxes, according to its 1974 annual report. The company today confirmed that the figures were correct.

A spokesman stated: "It's not our fault that we paid no national taxes. We don't determine tax policies in this country."

He said that Swedish tax policies enabled Volvo to write off 306m kronor in general inventory reserve from its gross profits, and that the company was engaged in the biggest capital investment programme in its history.

Mr Erik Wärnberg, chairman of a parliamentary tax committee, said it was an open question whether a situation of this type can be tolerated much longer.

Mr Wärnberg, who is also a Social Democratic MP, added that Volvo should not be singled out for condemnation. Swedish companies, he said, exploited perfectly legitimate loopholes and devices, some of which should be abolished.

The Second Great Northern Investment Trust Limited

1975 1974

Asset value per share	85.2p	71.6p
Total assets	£18,057,219	£17,267,542
Revenue available for ordinary shareholders	£285,085	£239,478
Ordinary dividend per share interim	0.5p	0.525p
Final	1.0p	0.935p
Capitalisation issue in B ordinary shares	1.3836p	2.1525p

Mr. J.A. Lumsden covered the following points in his review of the year to 31st May 1975.

RESULTS

Revenue attributable to ordinary shareholders increased from £239,478 to £285,085 and the dividend per ordinary share from 1.54p to 1.82p. The increase in total dividend from 1.46p to 1.6p should be regarded as exceptional as it is likely that many B shares will be converted into ordinary shares during the current year and income will also be reduced because funds have been switched from short term deposits to equities. The board, however, expect to recommend dividends totalling not less than 1.46p for the current year.

Net assets at 31st May 1975 totalled £16,308,149, an increase of 18.7 per cent over the year.

PORTFOLIO

In the first half of the financial year, equity holdings were reduced and short term deposits substantially increased, but, in the second half, this policy was reversed. The UK percentage of the equity portfolio at the year end was reduced from 35.24 to 30.73, while the USA percentage increased from 36.74 to 38.93 and the percentage in Japan showed a small decrease.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting will be held on Monday 8th September 1975, at 175 West George Street, Glasgow G2 2LD.

MANAGED BY MURRAY JOHNSTONE LIMITED

W Germany cuts bank lending rate to 4pc

From Peter Norman
Bonn, Aug 13

West Germany's Federal Bank today cut its key lending rate by half a percentage point in a further move to combat the recession in the country.

The bank's general council decided in Frankfurt to reduce the bank rate to 4 per cent from 4.5 per cent, while the Lombard rate, at which the Federal Bank lends to commercial banks, was cut to 5 per cent from 5.5 per cent, with effect from tomorrow (Friday).

At the same time the Federal Bank and the West German Government, which was represented at the meeting by Herr Hans Apel, the Finance Minister, and Herr Karl-Otto Pöhl, his State Secretary, agreed to lift the regulation by which non-residents can receive interest payments on German Bank deposits only with the express permission of the Federal Bank.

German capital controls, which were introduced at the time of the independent D-mark float in May, 1971, and effectively blocked such interest payments, would probably be lifted by the Cabinet when it meets again in Bonn on Wednesday.

As a result, the apparatus of German capital controls, built up in 1971 and 1972 has finally been demolished.

Dr Karl Klagen, the Federal Bank's president, said the latest interest rate cuts were "appropriate", given the serious situation of the German economy.

Employment is above the million mark and rose between June and July.

However, he gave a warning that interest rate cuts alone could not solve Germany's economic problems. At best they could reduce the cost of borrowing for industry and commerce and ease pressure on by the commercial banks.

Dr Otmar Emminger, the bank's vice-president, disagreed that the latest interest rate cuts would accelerate the rate of capital exports from Germany. He pointed out that in the first few weeks the rate of capital outflow from Germany has been modest, despite an already existing differential of 3.5 to 4 per cent between D-mark and dollar interest rates on the currency market.

The West German action was followed by the Dutch central bank. With effect from tomorrow the Dutch discount rate will be 5.5 per cent instead of 6 per cent.

Mr John Barber dismissed after request by new Leyland board

By Desmond Quigley

Mr John Barber and Mr John Simon, the two most senior casualties of the Ryder Report on British Leyland and the company's subsequent reorganisation, were yesterday formally dismissed. Both men held service contracts and no compensation has yet been agreed.

Mr Barber, formerly managing director of the Leyland company, British Leyland Motor Corporation, was paid £42,000 a year and had a contract with nine years to run which could bring him £378,000 compensation. He said last night that he would be consulting his solicitor.

The dismissals came at what was possibly the last meeting of the board of BLMC after a request from the board of the new parent company, British Leyland Limited.

The meeting was chaired by Lord Stokes, chairman and chief executive of the old company, who has been offered, but so far not accepted, the post of honorary president.

Both Mr Barber and Mr Simon, former executive director of Leyland, were dismissed at a meeting, Mr Barber, 56, said

later he had not tried to fight the issue at the meeting because "it is something we have been living with for months".

He said he had not decided what job to take on next, nor had he a particular sector in mind; but he added that he had perhaps more experience of the motor industry at senior level than anyone else in the country.

Mr Barber received considerable sympathy from the House of Commons Expenditure Committee, which earlier this week heavily criticised the Ryder Report.

He said last night he did not understand why there had been so much focus on him in the Ryder Report, since he had been managing director for only eight months.

However, he supposed that if the Ryder team had to be seen to be doing something, chopping the chief executive (Lord Stokes) and the managing director might seem to be sufficient.

Asked why he had not resigned after being told to do so, Mr Barber said: "I did not see why I should. I was managing direc-



Mr Barber: something we have been living with.

tor of a major company with 200,000 shareholders. It was my job to stay on to the bitter end and to see that they got the best deal possible from the Government."

Four-point plan suggested to boost offshore activity

By Penny Symon
Political Staff

A four-point plan to remedy the Government's mishandling of the offshore oil industry was suggested by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Shadow Secretary of State for Energy, last night.

Speaking to members of the Confederation of British Industry in Durham, he said that the situation was becoming a national tragedy, and each week brought reports of exploration rigs leaving the North Sea.

The Government must now take four immediate steps to restore confidence", Mr Jenkin said. First, it must call a halt to participations and negotiations except in those cases where companies have already agreed in principle. That will

allow the British National Oil Corporation to start with 51 per cent shares in licences owned by BP, Burmah, Tricentrol, Deminor, and Blackfriars Oil. It will also have the Coal Board's interest as well as British Gas Corporation licences.

Second, he said, the Government should amend the Petroleum and Submarine Pipe-lines Bill to make BNOC subject to the same tax regime as the rest of the industry.

Third, they must amend the Bill to provide for compensation to the companies in the event that the depletion control lead to loss of profit. Finally, the Government must change the field by field method of calculating liability to PRT.

Gold price down by over 2 dollars after US selling

Gold closed \$212.5 below overnight levels at \$159.75-160.75 an ounce, compared with last night's \$162-162.75.

Dealers said the metal's decline was caused mainly by selling in New York that followed silver's sharp falls overnight. For most of the session gold held \$162-162.5, but dropped to test the \$160 level as demand dried up.

The gold price has been above the \$160 level since October 24 last year, when it passed through this level on its climb up to a peak of \$197.50 at the end of the year.

At one point it broke through the psychologically important \$200 barrier in the restricted Paris market, where prices are higher.

It was generally thought yesterday that the public holiday in South Africa had had a depressive effect on the price of the metal.

Talks open on new working pact at Chrysler

By R. W. Shakespeare

Detailed discussions between a 25-strong trade union working party and senior Chrysler management began yesterday on the company's far-reaching proposals for worker participation in management, a new wage bargaining machinery, and a new system for dealing with labour disputes.

The company, which put its revolutionary plans on the table to the car unions as part of its last big wage agreement earlier this year, has set a target of September 1 for acceptance in principle of its main proposals. If this is achieved there will be a bonus payment of \$50 a head for all employees. Then, if the total package is implemented by the end of the year there will be a further \$50 a head bonus.

It was understood that these two payments have been cleared by the Department of Industry, as being permissible under the new pay strategy.

lastics may be over worst of recession

Our Industrial respondent

indications that the recession in the plastics industry may now be over were revealed yesterday by the British Plastics Federation. There were particularly encouraging signs in the electrical and machinery sectors.

In its latest survey of trends the BPF said that it appeared the worst of the present recession might be over and business should stabilise by the end of this year and gradually from then on.

The federation said: "It is important that companies which

have already made efforts to increase their exports should continue to do so when the domestic market improves, and thus avoid irresponsible trading situations which could damage the overseas reputation of the United Kingdom plastics industry."

But, the BPF noted, if the industry's competitiveness within the EEC was to be maintained, increased investment leading to higher productivity would be required.

The survey produced a depressing picture of investment plans by plastics companies with 9 per cent fewer companies than in the previous survey (covering January to June) indicating

that they would be approving capital expenditure over the next six months.

The federation said that the marked fall in investment intentions could lead to a stagnation in growth of productivity levels. Unless the working capital and liquidity position eased, self-generated funds for future investment would not be forthcoming.

According to the BPF, 58 per cent of the companies canvassed reported that the price increases which had been able to make were inadequate to cover their cost increases.

The chief constraint on the ability to increase prices arose from competition.

Newman-TPG work resumed

Doubts over the future role of Schroder Wage, the merchant bank, as advisers to Newman Industries, as well as the controversial deals relating to Thomas Poole & Gladstone China (TPG) has been finally removed. The bank is to resume work in connection with its examination of the proposals regarding TPG on terms of reference substantially in line with the original terms.

Announcing this yesterday, Newman stated that the proposed deal with Strongpoint would not be put to shareholders until the Schroder Wage report was in shareholders' hands.

US brokerage income falls with end of fixed rate

From Our United States Economics Correspondent
Washington, Aug 14

Ending of fixed rate brokerage commissions in the United States on May 1, resulted in a considerable decline in stock broker commission income on trading for institutions, but only a minor fall in retail business revenues.

A survey by the New York Stock Exchange confirms the impression that the ending of fixed commissions has intensified competition among brokers, but that institutions, rather than individuals, are the main beneficiaries of the change.

The survey, of 226 member brokerage companies, shows that commission income on transactions for institutional clients fell by an average of 16 per cent in May compared to the level that would have existed if fixed commissions had continued. The decline in income on retail business was just 2 per cent.

The level of decline increased as the month proceeded, suggesting that competition intensified and further declines are likely for June and July.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 124.09 - 0.68
The FT index: 293.1 - 1.5

Rises	Falls
Asse Port Cement 1p to 137p	McCorquodale 7p to 155p
Chamberlain Grp 3p to 21p	Price & Clarke 5p to 151p
ENH 2p to 173p	Royal Worts 4p to 80p
Flint 2p to 335p	Unilever 2p to 348p
Hawker Sid 5p to 251p	Walker & Bomer 2p to 14p
Kleiman Ind 5p to 195p	Woolwell Elder 5p to 162p

Rises	Falls
Barclays Bank 2p to 253p	Hutchinson 41p to 233p
Bentley 1p to 25p	Imp Chem 1p to 25p
Brit & Comm 5p to 160p	Moss Bros 2p to 25p
Courtaulds 1p to 115p	Newarhill 4p to 46p
GI 4p to 200p	Sangers 5p to 55p
Glen 2p to 34p	Edgewood, R 1p to 120p
Grand Met 2p to 59p	

Equities fell back after the July trade figures. Gifts too were easier, but rallied after hours.

Commodities: Reuters' index closed at 1185.5 (1185.6 on Wednesday).

Sterling rose by 10 points to \$2.085. The "effective devaluation" rate was 27.7 per cent.

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THE POUND

Bank	Bank
Australia \$ 1.65	1.64
Austria Sch 36.25	37.25
Belgium Fr 85.00	82.25
Canada \$ 2.23	2.18
Denmark Kr 12.85	12.45
Finland Mk 8.15	7.90
France Fr 6.45	6.15
Germany DM 5.55	5.35
Greece Dr 69.50	67.25
Italy L 1510.00	1460.00
Japan Yn 345.00	320.00
Netherlands Gld 5.70	5.50
Norway Kr 11.80	11.45
Portugal Esc 48.25	44.25
S Africa R 4.45	4.15
Spain Pes 125.00	120.00
Sweden Kr 9.30	9.00
Switzerland Fr 5.75	5.55
US \$ 2.15	2.10
Yugoslavia Dnr 38.00	36.00

Notes for small denominations, bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency facilities.

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AARONSON BROS. LIMITED

Manufacturers of Contiboard, Compulap, Wood Veneers, Conticlad, Aro-plax, Lacomite, Griffinitie, Armatum, Spanboard, etc.

AARONSON BROS. LTD. announce the declaration of an interim dividend on the Ordinary Share Capital on account of the year ending 30th September, 1975 of 0.5p per Ordinary Share (1974: 0.5p) amounting to £27,113 (1974: £27,839). Dividend warrants payable on 10th October, 1975 will be posted on 8th October, 1975. All shareholders registered at the close of business on 5th September, 1975.

September, 1975.	Unaudited		Published
	for six months to	for six months to	Accounts
	31.3.75	31.3.74	Year to 30.9.74
	(6 months)	(6 months)	(12 months)
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Group sales	8,738	9,101	17,296
adding profit before			
taxation	903	1,225	1,869
less provision for taxation ..	468	562	822
Group Trading Profit			
after taxation	435	663	1,047
Amount attributable to			

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

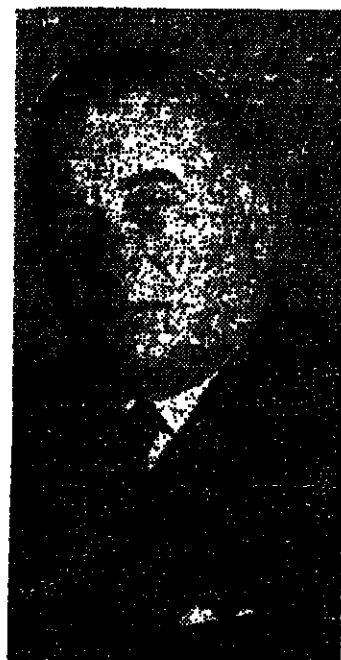
Philips Lamp and the European recession

Why
nient?

Philips Lamp shares, as one analyst put it yesterday, are "vibrating on hope". After results showing a further decline in the second quarter the London price remained unchanged at 720p, but its cue from Amsterdam where the shares also held steady at 71.25.

So far the glimmer of hope is a per cent increase in sales in the second quarter, in value terms after a near one per cent decline in the first three months. That implies weak volume, and it seems that first quarter sales are 3 per cent down in volume (excluding a spurious for comparability), a moreover masks the fact that European consumer goods are down by anything from 4 to 15 per cent according to area, with only Italian consumer sales going against that and after adopting the PAL term. Components seem weak, but consumer goods and retail goods provide the only note both in terms of sales and future expectations.

One possible straw in the wind is that Philips' stocks have peaked, though before helping to boost a grim interest, changes from 1974 to 1975 were: Sales £49.6m (£37.5m), Pre-tax profits £1.6m (£1.52m), * 1975: 26 weeks, * 1974: 25 weeks.



Mr William Shapland, chairman of Bernard Sunley Investment Trust: looking for profits in 1976.

afforded some protection by its major new OE contracts from Continental manufacturers. At 201p the shares yield 11.3 per cent and should draw some comfort from the news of continuing reductions in both stocks and borrowings. Even so, it still seems early days to be thinking about buying motor component shares.

Interim: 1975* (1974)
Capitalization £7.7m
Sales £49.6m (£37.5m)
Pre-tax profits £1.6m (£1.52m)
* 1975: 26 weeks
* 1974: 25 weeks

Newarthill

Oil platform losses

There was a hint in the annual statement earlier this year that Newarthill, the specialist construction firm, could be facing problems with its North Sea platforms due to labour disputes in 1974 delaying progress. But the loss attributable to this was of around £1.25m in the first six months of the current financial year is much worse than expected, with increasing rates of inflation destroying margins on these fixed price contracts.

Two platforms have now been completed with the third assigned to the Cormorant field not scheduled for completion for another 18 months or so. Thus, second half results will also show losses arising from the Cormorant platform. The solution in the long-term is, hopefully, further orders, but at present these are not available even for the Norwegian construction group.

Although traditional activities, factory and office development, are still busy, there are signs of a downturn in orders for major projects—the point being that even when there is a recovery in the economic cycle, new construction work tends to follow later.

So, at this stage, it is impossible to predict profits for the remainder of the year. Last year's total was £2.6m. The question is whether the dividend is in danger of being cut. Certainly, at this stage the yield of 13 per cent with the shares at 46p yesterday should be regarded as tentative.

Interim: 1974/75 (1973/74)
Capitalization £4.5m
Sales £75.8m (£57.7m)
Pre-tax profits £0.60m (£1.85m)

Bernard Sunley

Revalues its properties

Bernard Sunley is a classic case of the property company with an investment role. You could buy the shares, at 120p, for their asset backing, up from

247p to 312p after a professional revaluation of the investment properties which—the directors' revaluation of the overseas properties—has thrown up a surplus of £14.5m which has been incorporated into the books.

But however conservative the valuation may have been—with the average yield apparently at over 8 per cent—valuers obviously have difficulty these days in valuing anything because there are so few sales. In any case, the best guest at the worth of Sunley's assets must be the price that major shareholder Eagle Star will pay for them when and if it comes back with another bid—and from the looks of things that is not yet.

Indeed, anyone buying Sunley now might be buying trouble. Granted, the board is hoping for better things in the current financial year, with last year's static £2.5m property revenue due to rise by the annual £500,000 forfeited during the rent freeze together with additional income on further "substantial" reversions—for what that is worth, with the bulk of the portfolio made up of office properties in central London and the City, where rents are falling.

Meanwhile, interests costs—£3.14m last year—are certain to be higher this time after an £1.5m rise in borrowings over the 12 months—unless, of course, the pace of sales by Sunley Homes and at the Isola 2000 development really takes off. On the strength of sales so far Sunley is cautiously optimistic about the residential sales; but it remains to be seen how well this optimism stands up to deepening recession in the United Kingdom.

At least there should be no repeat this time of the £1.25m loss (as against a £965,000 profit) made by the residential companies last year, which reflected a £1.47m write-down of the values of land and work in progress—including a substantial write-off on the decision not to roll forward interest costs. Unpleasantly, however, in the building sector leaves the building side breaking even, the French subsidiary into the red, and the improvement in the investment property division at least in part offset by higher financing costs.

Under these circumstances there must be doubt about the dividend which are not acknowledged in the 5 per cent yield. Of course there might be a bid from Eagle Star before the year is out; but at the moment it is difficult to see why they or others would be interested in a hurry to move.

Final: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £19.2m
Pre-tax loss £2.38m (£2.35m*)
Earnings per share 7p (9.8p)
Dividend gross 5.0p (5.7p)
*Profit.

Lags/Lonrho

Speculative background

Investment interest in London Australian & General Exploration over the past couple of years has been centred on its mining activities. These include the 75 per cent stake in Duker Exploration which, in addition to holding a 43 million shares in United Gold Mines worth about £3.5m ex-premium, has a 40 per cent stake in Anglo's gold prospect at Erfiedel as well as substantial coal reserves.

While these two cannot be evaluated at the moment, it is worth remembering that a speculative mining share is a speculative share—any benefit of which would be swallowed up in Lonrho's general activities. With a large number of stake bids still holding LAGs, the five-fold increase in oil prices began to bite, consumers would become less wasteful in their use of oil and demand would suffer. Nations that could not afford to see their oil revenues dwindling would then be forced to reduce their prices,

Arabs divided over oil pricing strategy

Which way forward for Opec?

Five tanker-loading berths at the Lebanese port of Sidon, which, with their supporting rows of storage tanks, have kept southern European oil refineries supplied with Saudi Arabian crude oil for more than 20 years, now lie strangely silent. The busy waterfront quietened down this spring when the terminal's link with the Saudi Arabian oilfields—the 1,040-mile Trans-Arabian Pipeline (Tapline)—was closed.

Oil piped into the eastern Mediterranean from Saudi Arabia and Iraq has traditionally commanded a higher posted price than at tanker loading terminals on the Gulf. Tapline has had an unhappy history, suffering from sabotage and political pressures from Jordan, Syria and Lebanon through whose territory it passes. It was not surprising that when the bottom dropped out of the tanker market and it was cheaper to ship oil around the Cape to Europe than to pay the higher price for east Mediterranean crudes, that the American owners of the line should order its closure.

What was surprising was that pipeline terminals for Iraqi oil at Tripoli near the Lebanese border with Syria and another terminal at Banias, in Syria, should continue to load Iraqi oil into tankers, often in greater volumes than before the oil market was hit by huge surpluses of crude.

Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) suspect that their Iraqi partner has sustained its worldwide sales by cutting prices. Officially, Iraq has denied that it has done so, but at a time when almost every oil producer in the world has seen its output decline in the face of a recession in the industrial consuming countries and concerted efforts by oil consumers to cut out waste and conserve oil where possible, Iraq has managed to produce a production to near record levels.

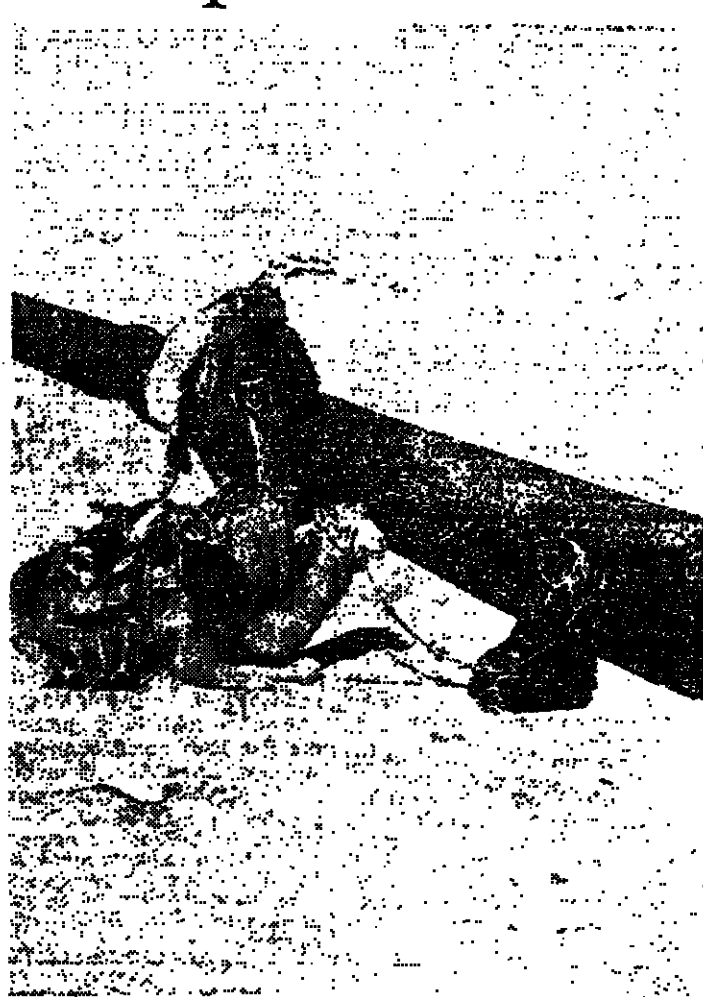
The lessons from Iraq were not lost on other producers with high cost oil which was proving difficult to sell during a period of over-supply. Libya saw its production slump to under a million barrels a day, but a short experiment with price-cutting, coupled with the same regime that this was the solution to his problems. With up to 35 cents off the official price, Libyan output has climbed steadily throughout the summer and is now close to two million barrels a day—doubling in just six months.

Nigeria has also "realigned" its prices and has taken the precaution of forbidding the oil companies to make unauthorized reductions in output and again has stopped the drift downward and seen production and revenues begin to rise again.

Only Algeria, of the countries that need to maintain oil production to finance their ambitious development plans, has stood back from the price-cutting war. In oil industry circles Algeria's lack of action is seen as preparation for a demand for substantially higher prices throughout the Opec countries when the organization meets in September to discuss its pricing strategy for the final three months of the year.

Admittedly not all the Opec nations have the same desperate need for cash as Algeria. The depressed state of the tanker market has improved the economics of buying oil from the Gulf area and also helped producers like the Iranians to blunt the full effects of the decline in the demand for crude.

Opec members can be forgiven for feeling a little smug. Several Western economists and many politicians had confidently forecast that once Opec's five-fold increase in oil prices began to bite, consumers would become less wasteful in their use of oil and demand would suffer. Nations that could not afford to see their oil revenues dwindling would then be forced to reduce their prices,



A place in the sun—but which way for Arab oil now?

triggering off a widespread price-cutting operation through-out the 13 member countries which would destroy the oil cartel in the same way as other cartels that had been faced with similar difficulties.

Few of the prophets of Opec's doom expected the conservation efforts to be coupled with a general industrial recession which at its nadir cut oil production from nearly 33 million barrels a day before the 1973/74 price increases and Yom Kippur war to 25.8 million barrels a day last February.

There is little doubt that the unity of Opec would have been more sternly tested had Saudi Arabia not been willing to act as a "swing" producer absorbing a major part of the decline in demand. Saudi Arabia allowed its output to fall from a peak of 8.5 million barrels a day to 5.9 million barrels while pressure on other Opec members to cut prices was at its height.

The ability of Opec to remain intact during the past six months has underlined the strength of the organization but at the same time has forced many of its members into the realization that this strength stems from the presence of Saudi Arabia, and to a lesser extent Kuwait, to use their financial surpluses for the good of the organization.

According to Opec sources, this will give greater power to the more moderate elements when prices are discussed next month. Opec is committed to raising prices at the end of the nine-month freeze in crude oil prices on October 1. Algeria is expected to make a case for a rise of up to 30 per cent to make good the erosion by inflation of their oil revenues' buying power.

But Algeria is likely to find fairly solid opposition to increases of this size. The moderates will be pressing for a token increase—less than 10 per cent—until the consuming countries have eased themselves out of the recession. Oil demand is beginning to pick up again, a sign that the economies in the West are growing more healthy. Even countries like Iran which are hungry for more oil money do not want to halt this recovery by imposing too great an increased oil burden too quickly.

Holding back on further large oil price rises will help big consumers to afford more expensive oil without suffering new damage to their economies. Large importers, like Britain, which are out of step with the general recovery in business fortunes throughout the world,

will undoubtedly find that in the autumn and again next year they are forced to pay more for oil simply because the consuming nations in Japan, North America and Europe will be adjudged economically fit and well again.

Opec members are well aware that the Third World was not able to cope with the price rises of the past two years and will be hit even harder by further increases. Publicly, Opec solves its conscience by pouring aid into these countries but refuses to consider the two-tier pricing system for which the poorer nations have been lobbying.

Resentment against Opec countries within the Third World has been muted by the flood of petrodollars, but according to Opec sources, more and more developing nations are quietly telling the oil producers that in the longer term they cannot expect to consider themselves as Third World nations while treating their less privileged brothers on the same basis as the rich nations. Opec is desperately anxious not to be isolated as a rich man's club suspended between the industrialized nations and the Third World.

There is a growing body of expert opinion within Opec which feels that if more moderate pricing policies can prevail in September and throughout 1976, then the longer term future of the organization is assured. Many of the experts would like member countries to consolidate this strength by agreeing to a programme for coordinating production throughout the Opec countries to ensure that supply and demand are always in balance.

And there is also a realization that in the long term the greatest danger to Opec lies not in the cyclical movements in demand for oil, but in the development of alternative sources of energy. In theory, most Opec countries applaud conservation efforts since they help to stretch their limited oil reserves over a greater period, putting off the evil day when their principal source of wealth is exhausted. In practice, however, the effects of conservation can be painful.

The five-fold increase in prices gave tremendous impetus to the search for alternative reserves. As the difficulties of extracting oil from deeper parts of the Continental Shelf, perfecting nuclear power, developing shale oil and tar sands, become more apparent and absorb more money, Opec experts feel they can stem the tide against their own sources of oil by preventing any more sharp increases in prices.

And Opec members are aware that none of the alternative sources of energy stand up to serious examination unless they can charge at least the equivalent of \$10 a barrel for crude oil.

Roger Vielvoe

Good news travels faster with aid of computer

A saving of under £2m a year in a business which lost more than £300m in 1974-75 might seem like a drop in the ocean, but for Post Office telecommunications, the impact of the corporation's new computer-controlled switching centre for international telegrams is much more drastic than the simple cost saving indicates.

The recent inauguration of the new London centre represents an important step forward in the automation of telegram handling (1,000 fewer staff are needed to handle the traffic). Costing £4.5m, it is the largest and most advanced centre of its type in the world. Its job is automatically to route telegrams into and out of the United Kingdom, including transit traffic. It has replaced three more antiquated systems in handling about 68,000 paid telegrams a day, of which 17,500 or about one-quarter are in transit from one country to another through London.

This leaves about 28,500 outgoing and about 22,000 incoming telegrams each day. About 10,000 or 45 per cent of the incoming ones are delivered by Telex, 9,000 (40 per cent) by hand, 2,200 by telephone and 800 by post.

The manual deliveries are clearly the main cost element in the telegram service. For business users—who account for about 80 per cent of the 18 million telegrams into and out of the United Kingdom each year—telegrams can give flexibility in delivery, the recognized advantages of the speed of telecommunications and the authority of the written word.

Businesses which have a registered telegraphic address, for example, can arrange for telegrams to be delivered to them by Telex during the working day and by telephone to executives' homes out of office hours.

Compared with the three systems which it replaces, the new centre gives a faster and more reliable service. The old systems consisted of a manual relay centre, a turn-tape relay centre and a message-switching relay centre.

In the manual centre, each telegram was carried on a conveyor belt to the dispatch operator, who typed it out on a teletypewriter linked by direct circuit to the destination office. At the turn-tape centre, telegrams were produced as perforated paper tape. When completed, the telegram was relayed by tearing the tape off the incoming machine and feeding it into the tape reader of the outgoing machine.

In the old message-switching centre, telegrams were switched automatically by semi-electronic electromagnetic equipment which was actuated by routing information in the telegram "header" (coded groups of letters and figures in front of the address and text). This was simple in operation but limited in capacity.

Now the London telegram retransmission centre (TRC) is the hub of the international traffic network. Telegrams for delivery abroad are received at the 13 telegraph area offices in Britain (most by telex or telephone), where operators forward them by teleprinter to the TRC.

Kenneth Owen

JOINT COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT STAFFORD MAYER COMPANY SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED ("STAFFORD MAYER") ANGLO AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION LIMITED ("AMIC")

(Both incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

It is announced that AMIC has acquired 74 326 of the 77 025 ordinary shares in Stafford Mayer previously held by those directors of Stafford Mayer who are not directors of AMIC and by members of their respective families and companies in which they are interested, and 2 259 821 of the 3 703 622 ordinary shares in Stafford Mayer previously held by shareholders who had undertaken that they would vote in favour of the Scheme of Arrangement to be considered by shareholders of Stafford Mayer on the 25th August 1975. Such acquisitions of the Stafford Mayer ordinary shares were on the basis stated in such proposed Scheme of Arrangement.

Consequently, AMIC now holds 4 114 339 ordinary shares in Stafford Mayer and therefore 54.86 per cent of its paid-up ordinary share capital. Stafford Mayer and its subsidiaries, including South African Board Mills Limited, are now subsidiaries of AMIC.

Accordingly, AMIC will not vote at the meeting of shareholders which is to be held on 26th August 1975 to consider the Scheme of Arrangement in respect of those shares acquired by it and the references in the Scheme of Arrangement documents to "5 719 808" ordinary shares as being the subject of the Scheme of Arrangement will be reduced to 3 385 661 ordinary shares.

Johannesburg
15th August, 1975

Business Diary: Scots Gray's • Hands across the sea

ow that a chairman, Sir Liam Gray, has been found for the new Scottish Development Agency, it only needs a cy to be in business.

William, a solicitor, former of Irvine Nelson and element of the Scottish Development Agency, was yesterday promised a promise that encompassed a bling of the Government's ory-building and derelict clearance efforts as well cooperation with local orities in environmental velopment (or "public ke" as they were called in thirds).

Other words, it would be to much business as usual shir more of it, under eign of the Scottish Indus- Estate Corporation and Small Industries Council Rural Areas of Scotland, of which now operate the SDA's wing.

Other less was said about real McCoy, the power of the Ross, Secretary of State Scotland, to NEB-like "in- e itself directly in indus- in the House of Lords—or ds, if you prefer—is now ing up, and is one of the es the Government has to e with this increasingly

revisive non-elective body with its in-built Tory majority. Ross lays much of the blame for the unhealthiness of Scotland's industrial base at the doors of "the owners of Scottish industry", which in part could be taken as aside-swipe at some of the fractious peers.

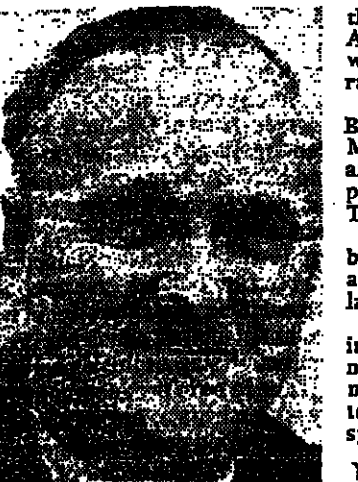
He has spoken of the failure to plough back profits, and the consequent inability of Scottish industry to withstand "wider market forces".

Ross intends to press on with the wideaning of the SDA's powers, and hopes to have the necessary legislation through in October. Then Sir William can set off on his white charger with even more ways of getting through his initial budget of £200m.

Driving gloves

While Peter Shore was warning to his current theme of Buy British yesterday—shades of Tim Backing Britain and all that—London Rubber was announcing further sponsorship of a Japanese racing team.

It's a tangled tale that literally has to do with hands across the sea. LRC was kicking its heels wondering how to promote a line of kitchen gloves in Japan when Maki, a Japanese Formula One racing team, fell on hard



Lord Mottistone: directing cake and biscuit operations

times on the eve of the German Grand Prix at Nurburgring earlier this month.

A Japanese driver-sponsor was withdrawn, and the team's main sponsor, Citizen Watch of Japan, couldn't top up the kitty from its present budget. LRC came in for that event at the request of the British drivers, and although the Maki didn't qualify for the race, it found its way on to Japanese TV.

Now the rubber goods company is chipping in to finance

the team's crack at Sunday's Austrian Grand Prix, after which LRC will bow out of the racing sponsorship game.

The Maki car is made from British components at the team's Maidenhead, Berkshire base and the car will be raced, trials permitting, by British driver Tony Trimmer.

There is no Formula One building capacity in Japan (yet), and the fortunes of Maki are lapped up by racing fans there. While LRC was primarily interested in the Japanese connection, the company's glove-makers were tickled by the team's choice of an emblem to sport on the car: it's a hand.

Family claim

The Americans are quick off the mark to claim against insurance companies, but what about the American woman who is now suing herself, in effect, for the death of her husband?

Applications for tickets for a forthcoming *Concorde* flight have caused some amusement at British Airways, none more than that from a Newcastle woman who wrote "It will be our 40th wedding anniversary on Bank Holiday Sunday and I would like to send my husband away somewhere".

He died in a motor accident and his wife is bringing an action against herself on behalf of her son, who is too young to bring it in his own name, for loss of his father. The child's case is that his mother was negligent in encouraging her husband to drink before the drive that ended in the accident.

Redistribution

While it's no longer possible to send a gunboat when chaps start acting uppity in faraway places, it is still possible to do the next best thing—to send a gunboatman.

That's what Britain's cake and biscuit makers appear to have been thinking about when they hired away Lord Mottistone from his present command, founder-director of the Distributive Industries Training Board, to become the first director of the recently reorganized pressure group, the Cake & Biscuit Alliance.

Lord Mottistone, a Navy man from way back, retired eight years ago. He was mentioned in dispatches during his command of HMS Ajax and of an escort squadron of the Far East Fleet involved in offensive operations in that grim Indonesian "confrontation", the one nobody ever seems to talk

People with a position to maintain in the world keep informed with The Times Special Reports

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

A £1m rights issue by Sangers who plan acquisitions soon

A £1.04m rights issue was announced yesterday by Sangers, one of Britain's largest wholesale chemists. The issue will be of 2.1m shares, by way of one for every three held and priced at 50p a share.

In the stock market, where rights issues are currently regarded unenthusiastically after several relatively unsuccessful offers, the shares in Sangers fell 5p to 65p. The terms would put the shares at 61 1/2p ex rights, and value the "rights" at 3.75p a share.

The proceeds of the issue, which has been underwritten by Hill Samuel will be used to aid diversification. Sangers intends to expand some "smaller but profitable areas"—such as that of exclusive agencies, and also to buy new businesses outside its traditional sector—in fields where its skills and experience can be put to good use.

Good news for shareholders is the confirmation of a recovery from last year's fall in profits. This year, Sangers predicts profits exceeding £1.3m pre-tax, against £916,000, indicating a return to the profits of the early Seventies. The board also intends to maintain the dividend at 4.804p a share on the increased capital. Dividends will in future be paid twice yearly.

Provisional allotment letters in connection with the issue will be posted to shareholders on September 1, and dealings in the new shares are expected to start the following day. W. Greenwell is the broker to the issue.

The board comments that the group had a healthy year-end balance sheet. But finance provided by creditors has since fallen, in spite of a large increase in turnover. Group sales have been rising steadily since 1971. Last year, turnover was up from £47.5m to £55.4m.

Profits have been slower to follow the same pattern. The chairman, Mr. H. Nicholson, drew attention at the year end to rigorous control of stocks and of debtors, both of which had been reduced over the period.

Aaronson has begun to revive

Venue merchants Aaronson Bros report interim results that look poor when compared with the same months a year earlier, but much better than those made between April and September 1974. This confirms boardroom hopes of an upturn expressed five months ago. Moreover second half profits should be better than those of the first half, while 1975-76 should bring "substantial benefits".

On sales for the half year to March 31 down from £9.1m to £8.74m, pre-tax profits fell from £1.22m to £903,000. But they also compared with the £650,000 for the half year to September 30, 1974. The net profit came to £374,000 against £170,000 (£246,000) relating to claims being negotiated by a subsidiary. The interim dividend is up from 0.67 to 0.77p.

The year to September 1974 saw a decline of nearly two-fifths in the second half turnover. The board last March saw prospects somewhat muted

Reed & Smith stumbles

A collapse in profits but a forecast of much better things come from Reed & Smith (Holdings), the paper manufacturing group. Indeed, the group hopes that 1975 will see pre-tax profits matching 1974's £1.3m. The interim payment is slashed from 2.25p to 0.77p, but it is hoped to maintain the total dividend at 3.92p a share.

In spite of adverse trading conditions—the sector was in a recession of "unprecedented severity"—Mr. K. C. Weedy, chairman, says that most group companies performed "very well".

DRAWING OF BONDS

City of Copenhagen \$15,000,000 8 1/2% cent.
15 Year External Loan of 1970

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that for the Sinking Fund of 1st October, 1975, a Drawing of Bonds of the Loan will be held on 31st July, 1975, at 10.00 a.m. by Mr. Richard Graham Rogers of Messrs De Puma, Rogers & John Venn, Notary Public, when the following Bonds were drawn for redemption at par on 1st October, 1975.

Bonds, which may be presented for redemption at any of the Paying Agents for the Loan, must bear the Coupon dated 1st October, 1975 and all following Coupons, otherwise the amount of the missing Coupons will be deducted from the principal to be repaid.

BONDS DRAWN

783 Bonds of nominal value of £1,000 each

NUMBERS									
22	79	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88
21	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
548	630	654	665	666	667	668	669	670	671
253	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902
1004	1005	1006	1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126
1251	1252	1253	1254	1255	1256	1257	1258	1259	1260
1262	1263	1264	1265	1266	1267	1268	1269	1270	1271
1282	1283	1284	1285	1286	1287	1288	1289	1290	1291
1359	1360	1361	1362	1363	1364	1365	1366	1367	1368
1575	1576	1577	1578	1579	1580	1581	1582	1583	1584
2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378
2514	2515	2516	2517	2518	2519	2520	2521	2522	2523
2527	2528	2529	2530	2531	2532	2533	2534	2535	2536
2541	2542	2543	2544	2545	2546	2547	2548	2549	2550
2554	2555	2556	2557	2558	2559	2560	2561	2562	2563
2572	2573	2574	2575	2576	2577	2578	2579	2580	2581
2778	2779	2780	2781	2782	2783	2784	2785	2786	2787
3109	3110	3111	3112	3113	3114	3115	3116	3117	3118
3551	3552	3553	3554	3555	3556	3557	3558	3559	3560
3564	3565	3566	3567	3568	3569	3570	3571	3572	3573
3617	3618	3619	3620	3621	3622	3623	3624	3625	3626
3840	3841	3842	3843	3844	3845	3846	3847	3848	3849
3932	3933	3934	3935	3936	3937	3938	3939	3940	3941
4087	4088	4089	4090	4091	4092	4093	4094	4095	4096
4079	4080	4081	4082	4083	4084	4085	4086	4087	4088
4234	4235	4236	4237	4238	4239	4240	4241	4242	4243
5093	5094	5095	5096	5097	5098	5099	5100	5101	5102
5118	5119	5120	5121	5122	5123	5124	5125	5126	5127
5331	5332	5333	5334	5335	5336	5337	5338	5339	5340
5374	5375	5376	5377	5378	5379	5380	5381	5382	5383
5391	5392	5393	5394	5395	5396	5397	5398	5399	5400
5401	5402	5403	5404	5405	5406	5407	5408	5409	5410
5411	5412	5413	5414	5415	5416	5417	5418	5419	5420
5421	5422	5423	5424	5425	5426	5427	5428	5429	5430
5431	5432	5433	5434	5435	5436	5437	5438	5439	5440
5441	5442	5443	5444	5445	5446	5447	5448	5449	5450
5451	5452	5453	5454	5455	5456	5457	5458	5459	5460
5461	5462	5463	5464	5465	5466	5467	5468	5469	5470
5471	5472	5473	5474	5475	5476	5477	5478	5479	5480
5481	5482	5483	5484	5485	5486	5487	5488	5489	5490
5491	5492	5493	5494	5495	5496	5497	5498	5499	5500
5501	5502	5503	5504	5505	5506	5507	5508	5509	5510
5511	5512	5513	5514	5515	5516	5517	5518	5519	5520
5521	5522	5523	5524	5525	5526	5527	5528	5529	5530
5531	5532	5533	5534	5535	5536	5537	5538	5539	5540
5541	5542	5543	5544	5545	5546	5547	5548	5549	5550
5551	5552	5553	5554	5555	5556	5557	5558	5559	5560
5561	5562	5563	5564	5565	5566	5567	5568	5569	5570
5571	5572	5573	5574	5575	5576	5577	5578	5579	5580
5581	5582	5583	5584	5585	5586	5587	5588	5589	5590
5591	5592	5593	5594	5595	5596	5597	5598	5599	5600
5601	5602	5603	5604	5605	5606	5607	5608	5609	5610
5611	5612	5613	5614	5615	5616	5617	5618	5619	5620
5621	5622	5623	5624	5625	5626	5627	5628	5629	5630
5631	5632	5633	5634	5635	5636	5637	5638	5639	5640
5641	5642	5643	5644	5645	5646	5647	5648	5649	5650
5651	5652	5653	5654	5655	5656	5657	5658	5659	5660
5661	5662	5663	5664	5665	5666	5667	5668	5669	5670
5671	5672	5673	5674	5675	5676	5677	5678	5679	5680
5681	5682	5683	5684	5685	5686	5687	5688	5689	5690
5691	5692	5693	5694	5695	5696	5697	5698	5699	5700
5701	5702	5703	5704	5705	5706	5707	5708	5709	5710
5711	5712	5713	5714	5715	5716	5717	5718	5719	5720
5721	5722	5723	5724	5725	5726	5727	5728	5729	5730
5731	5732	5733	5734	5735	5736	5737	5738	5739	5740
5741	5742	5743	5744	5745	5746	5747	5748	5749	5750
5751	5752	5753	5754	5755	5756	5757	5758	5759	5760
5761	5762	5763	5764	5765	5766	5767	5768	5769	5770
5771	5772	5773	5774	5775	5776	5777	5778	5779	5780
5781	5782	5783	5784	5785	5786	5787	5788	5789	5790
5791	5792	5793	5794	5795	5796	5797	5798	5799	5800
5801	5802	5803	5804	5805	5806	5807	5808	5809	5810
5811	5812	5813	5814	5815	5816	5817	5818	5819	5820
5821	5822	5823	5824	5825	5826	5827	5828	5829	5830
5831	5832	5833	5834	5835	5836	5837	5838	5839	5840
5841	5842	5843	5844	5845	5846	5847	5848	5849	5850
5851	5852	5853	5854	5855	5856	5857	5858	5859	5860
5861	5862	5863	5864	5865	5866	5867	5868	5869	5870
5871	5872	5873	5874	5875	5876	5877	5878	5879	5880
5881	5882	5883	5884	5885	5886	5887	5888	5889	5890
5891	5892	5893	5894	5895	5896	5897	5898	5899	5900
5901	5902	5903	5904	5905	5906	5907	5908	5909	5910
5911	5912	5913	5914	5915	5916	5917	5918	5919	5920
5921	5922	5923	5924	5925	5926	5927	5928	5929	5930
5931	5932	5933	5934	5935	5936	5937	5938	5939	5940
5941	5942	5943	5944	5945	5946	5947	5948	5949	5950
5951	5952	5953	5954	5955	5956	5957	5958	5959	5960
5961	5962	5963	5964	5965	5966	5967	5968	5969	5970
5971	5972	5973	5974	5975	5976	5977	5978	5979	5980
5981	5982	5983	5984	5985	5986	5987	5988	5989	5990
5991	5992	5993	5994	5995	5996	5997	5998	5999	6000

The undermentioned Bonds which were drawn for redemption on 1st October, 1972 have not yet been presented for redemption.

NUMBERS 10952 10954

The undermentioned Bonds which were drawn for redemption on 1st October, 1973 have not yet been presented for redemption.

NUMBERS			
1298	2404	2434	2434
4035	4204	8708	8708
6223	6234	9377	9377
9532	12003	12143	12143
13157			

Note: Any of the drawn Bonds and Coupons due 1st October, 1975 presented in the United Kingdom should be lodged during office hours for payment through an Authorized Depository in London with

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited,
4 Throgmorton Avenue,
London EC2P 2NB or
Hambros Bank Limited,
41 Bishopsgate,
London EC2

Bonds cannot be accepted through the post.

The usual interval of four clear days will be required for examination.

Office of Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited.

15th August 1975

Unigate's prospect remains uncertain

Shareholders in Unigate were warned by the chairman, Sir James Barker, of a scarcity of milk for manufacturing, which is likely to continue this year. The group's butter plants were closed for nearly half the last trading year for no other reason, said Sir James in his annual review, than that the dairy farmers, as also the pig farmers, had not the encouragement and the confidence to increase production. Milk available for manufacturing was 9 per cent down last year. This will "almost certainly" be less in the current year.

The board remains confident of its ability to take advantage of improved economic conditions when they occur, said Sir James. Profits reached another record last year, but this time he found it even more difficult to make any sort of prediction than in 1974.

Pointing out that several of the group's products are heavily subsidised, he commented that the Government's intentions regarding these subsidies is still not known. "It is important that if they are removed, they should be removed gradually," he adds. He argues that if the nation is to be fed, then companies such as Unigate must be allowed to make an adequate return on capital.

He described operation of the Price Code last year as irksome, and said that it seemed likely to get stricter still.

BPC sells 35 pc of Japanese sub

British Printing Corporation has sold a 35 per cent stake in its highly profitable International Learning Systems (Japan) to John Swire and Sons, the Far East based conglomerate, for about £2m, including £650,000 goodwill. The price, payable in cash, will be determined by the audited accounts of the Japanese operation, which in the past two years has swung away from the sale of encyclopaedias to selling BBC English courses.

A good forecast from Stigwood

Barely one week after breaking off merger negotiations with Warner Communications, a fall of 32 per cent in first half profits is disclosed by Robert Stigwood Group, the musical and entertainment company. But, thanks to revenue from the film "Tommy" from chart success in America by the Bee Gees group, and from United States television productions, the group expects year end profits to show an increase from £775,000 to at least £800,000.

Payout up as L'pool Post slips

Like other newspaper groups, The Liverpool Daily Post & Echo has been hit by rising costs and falling advertising. This reduced the dividend from £1.75m to £1.18m in the six months to June 28 on turnover up from £13.2m to £15.1m. The group has suffered from two disputes (they also hit the entire provincial newspaper industry). Earnings a share duly went down from 7.5p to 5.5p, but the dividend rises from 3.07p to 3.37p gross.

The group's retail shops and operations in Canada should show further progress in the rest of 1975, while a tiny profit is expected from the group's investment in information systems. However, against the

prevailing economic background, and continuing Price Commission curbs, the United Kingdom newspapers and publishing interests may do little more than maintain their present trends.

Hawkins stay in red

Again, Hawkins Development, is again paying no dividend. It reports a 1974 trading profit of £328,000 against £386,000, but an attributable loss of £54,000 after one of £30,000. The losses were incurred on competitive construction activities in course of curtailment, and amounted to £121,000 against £8

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Lewan de Groot "A" shares to get vote
it growth in profits slows down

Lewan de Groot, the electricity and machinery group, is better positioned to equalize the voting rights between the "A" and "B" shares and the ordinary of capital.

The scheme will be accounted for by reducing votes on the "A" shares from 10 to one, after the first of January 1976. The company has no intention of issuing any new shares to equalize the voting rights.

Following this, there will be a straight one-for-one issue to all shareholders. Technical reasons, these payments will be carried by issues of five-for-four ordinary, and one-for-one "A" shares. If approved by shareholders, the issued capital will be £10m against a present £5m.

Mr. Lewan de Groot's profits were £1.1m in 1974, compared with £0.8m in 1973. But for the full year 1975, he expects a profit of £1.2m.

Mr. Lewan de Groot's share price rose 10p to 11.5p and total rises from 3.67p to 4.17p.

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Alpine's good news

Shareholders attending yesterday's annual meeting of Alpine Holdings heard two pieces of good news from the chairman, Mr. Alan Dyer. In view of comments made on the accounts by the auditors, Mr. Dyer said that, with the group now well into its new financial year, he could confirm that there was no further loss from the discontinued forestry food side. The sale of the freezer factory, presaged in the annual report, has now been completed at a price of £440,000.

Tilling expansion

Thomas Tilling subsidiary, International Medical Supplies and Services (INTERMED), has acquired Longworth Instruments whose principal operating cash is from the manufacture of anaesthetic and resuscitation equipment. Earlier this month Tilling announced a £3.2m deal to buy Energy Services and Electronics, a health aid division of INTERMED.

Winstan Prop defers

After losses on Lisbon and Algarve developments, Westminster Property's pre-tax profits for the half year to April 30 were down from £78,000 to £60,000. The board makes no forecast for the second half, and the interim dividend has been deferred until after then.

Negretti retreat

Turnover at Negretti & Zambra, the instruments maker, for the year to March 31 rose by 27 per cent to £5.16m, but profits were hit by pressure on margins and an increase in interest charges. The pre-tax

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ITT prospects
darken after
2nd-quarter drop

The predicted fall in second-quarter profits of the giant International Telephone and Telegraph Corp turns out to be 31 per cent to \$9.5m, but the expected third-quarter upsurge has hung fire. The board no longer expects the September quarter figure to match last year's \$11.15m. Sales for the second quarter eased from \$2,900m to \$2,860m.

In spite of the first-quarter gain in profits from \$104m to \$106m, the first half results now register a fall of 17 per cent to \$206.1m on sales up from \$5,390m to \$5,500m.

Lower earnings were reported by several European operations, although the European telecommunications, worldwide food and international communications operations did better. Another bugbear is fluctuating exchange rates.

SA Dist mopped up

South African Distilleries has agreed terms which would make it a wholly owned subsidiary of Oude Mester Group—which already has 51 per cent of the equity. Minority holders will receive the terms soon. Meanwhile, the quotation for SA Distilleries has been suspended.

MEPC hearing

Hearing of the dispute between MEPC (Australia) and the Sydney Stock Exchange will begin in the Supreme Court during the second week in October, Mr. Michael Billinghurst, the company's managing

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Overseas

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Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

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\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]



Bourton House, near Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire.

Interior layouts unusual by ordinary standards lend a touch of character to a house and are popular with the kind of buyer who likes something a little different about his home. It is true that modernization is original design or as a result of conversion, can be carried too far in the search for novelty, but where the design remains convenient and compact yet offers a fresh approach, the effect can be interesting.

One such property is Galloway Cottage, at Donhead St Andrew, near Shaftesbury, Dorset. It was formerly the vicarage and has been converted into a house. The large spaces and lofty ceilings provided by the original design are retained, but the design remains convenient and compact yet offers a fresh approach, the effect can be interesting.

Alterations that bring character

acres and offers over £40,000 are being asked for Donhead St Andrew, near Shaftesbury, Dorset. The house is a large Victorian house, built in 1861, but having a small estate of 26 acres giving it complete privacy. The house has two large reception rooms, a study and four double bedrooms. A large separate garage block has a playroom or studio in the upper part. The property is for sale at £58,500 through Lear and Lear, of Cheltenham.

One unusually interesting section of town property for sale is The Old Drum, at Sandwich, Kent, the home of Lord Salomon. A listed building and reputed to date back to the fifteenth century, it is within the walls of the old and picturesque town and its main construction is in brick and flint with original herringbone brickwork at the rear with much exposed timbering both inside and out. Another feature is a good gallery landing. There is a single large sitting room on the ground floor and two bedrooms and a bathroom on the first floor. Behind, there is a small walled garden. Offers in the region of £32,000 are being asked through Lear and Lear, of Cheltenham.

A pleasant small property and a bit of a gem is White Rose Cottage, Wargrave, Berkshire. It stands in the High Street and parts are reputed to date back to the early fifteenth century. Curiously, what is now the large drawing room was the village school until about 1912. There are a reception hall, two further reception rooms and two bedrooms. An enclosed garden at the rear gives privacy. A price of £5,500 is being asked through Lear and Lear, of Cheltenham.

Gerald Ely

Residential Property

Alterations that bring character

SUBSTANTIAL EDWARDIAN PROPERTY

A SPACIOUS AND APPEALING EDWARDIAN PROPERTY IN THE HEART OF PUTNEY'S MOST FAVOURABLE RESIDENTIAL AREA.

This early Edwardian semi-detached property features a sunny front terrace, a secluded patio and a mature south facing garden.

Appointments include enormous Reception Hall, spacious Dining Room, large Kitchen, two Bathrooms, separate W.C. and a further Bathroom.

ALL IN GOOD ORDER AND RECOMMENDED AT £31,500 Freehold

TAYLOR DIXON PORTER
Tel: 785 0034

KENSINGTON, SW10

A recently completed conversion of a Victorian house into a modern house with a large garden and a swimming pool. The house is situated in a quiet residential area and is close to the tube station.

Price £22,500-£27,000

ALLSOP & CO.
20 MOORE STREET, LONDON, W1P 6JH
01-584 6108

MARLBOROUGH COURT

A superb sunny and modern town house in this fine mansion block.

Living room (parquet), 3 bedrooms and bathroom, kitchen, dining room, study, two reception rooms, a study and four double bedrooms. A large separate garage block has a playroom or studio in the upper part. The property is for sale at £58,500 through Lear and Lear, of Cheltenham.

Price of £27,500-£30,000

Phone 01-584 6108 or 01-584 6110 or 01-584 6111

HAMPSTEAD

Close to Heath

Short lease of a recently built house for sale at £25,000 p.a. exclusive. The house is situated in a quiet residential area and is close to the tube station.

Price of £25,000-£27,000

Weatherell Green & Smith
01-405 6144

TOP OF HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE

A beautiful Victorian house with a large garden and a swimming pool. The house is situated in a quiet residential area and is close to the tube station.

Price of £27,500-£30,000

Weatherell Green & Smith
01-405 6144

SHEEN COMMON/RICHMOND PARK

A beautiful Victorian house with a large garden and a swimming pool. The house is situated in a quiet residential area and is close to the tube station.

Price of £27,500-£30,000

Weatherell Green & Smith
01-405 6144

KENSINGTON PLACE

W.B.

Georgian terraced house; 6 rooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, patio/garden.

FREEHOLD £45,000 O.N.O.

Telephone 01 589 5001

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

NEAR GODDEN GREEN SEVENOAKS

Superb situation close to golf course

EXQUISITE MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER

6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, a study and four double bedrooms. A large separate garage block has a playroom or studio in the upper part. The property is for sale at £58,500 through Lear and Lear, of Cheltenham.

Price of £27,500-£30,000

Weatherell Green & Smith
01-405 6144

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PROPERTY TO LET

E. SUSSEX FARM HOUSE

A very attractive house in a beautiful setting, 6 beds, 3 baths, 1 reception, kitchen, living room, dining room, study, two reception rooms, a study and four double bedrooms. A large separate garage block has a playroom or studio in the upper part. The property is for sale at £58,500 through Lear and Lear, of Cheltenham.

Price of £27,500-£30,000

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COTTAGE IN HAMPSHIRE

TO LET

FURNISHED 2.3 YEARS

4 bedrooms, bathroom, shower, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, dining room, study, two reception rooms, a study and four double bedrooms. A large separate garage block has a playroom or studio in the upper part. The property is for sale at £58,500 through Lear and Lear, of Cheltenham.

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LAND FOR SALE

View of mountains, 30 miles from Rome and 15 miles from the sea.

Planning permission for 1 house on 1.525 acres, 1.5 miles from the sea.

Price £22 per sq. metre

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